

COLUMBUS BASE SUBMARINE VETERANS

Volume 4, Issue 3

April 2008



THE GREEN BOARD

ALL SEAS ARE NAVIGABLE



Columbus Base Newsletter

Submarine Force Milestone Celebrated In Sea Of Sand

Camp Bucca, Iraq

There were no dress blues, just desert beige. No wine or beer, just chai tea and water. And no deejay with music, just the pooping of bugs as they flew to their deaths in the pest traps.

This is how the submariners at Camp Bucca celebrated the Submarine Force's 108th birthday Friday April 4th.

I'd like to start off with a few remarks," Navy Capt. Bruce A. Derenski told an audience of 20, just before the lights went out.

Once the power was restored, Derenski told the story of inventor John Philp Holland and how he designed a 53-foot long ship with a modern gasoline engine, a battery for submerged operation, a stable hull and a functional torpedo tube.

A diagram of the USS Holland (SS-1) was on a card in front of each place setting.



Now, 108 years later, Derenski said, What Holland would recognize most about the submarine of today is their crews, those who "see challenge where others see obstacles, those who master an environment instead of allowing it to master them. Happy Birthday you guys."

Derenski, who commanded the New Hampshire, a Virginia Class submarine now under construction at EB in Groton,

These submariners are in the desert as "individual augmentees," aiding the Army by temporarily leaving their regular roles to serve on the ground.

Yeoman First Class Samuel Mize rang a bell as Derenski read the names of submarines lost at sea. The tolling of the boats is a time-honored tradition at the Submarine Birthday Ball. "For being out in the middle of nowhere, this actually pretty good" Mize said later.

Happy Birthday to the United States Submarine



Karen Bascomb, Bryan Ledbetter, Sam Templeton and wife Dorothy



George Trace, Dorothy Ripenhopff, jim Koogler, Bob and Sue Wells



Looking at the camera are Marv Pastor and Linda Dodson



Tom Baughman, Jim Tolson, Karla Tolson and Joe Testa



Joe & Jeannie Murphy, Bill & Barb McCorkle, Opal & Phil Philipps



Mamie Murphy and Joan Pastor

Upcoming Events

May 3, 2008	12:00	Location to be announced
May 17, 2008	?????	Tolling Ceremony at Columbus City Hall
May 26, 2008	?????	Powell Memorial Day Parade
June 7, 2008	12:00	Monthly base meeting



Lost Boats

April		
USS Pickerel	SS -177	3 April 1943
USS Grenadier	SS-210	22 April 1943
USS Gudgeon	SS-211	18 April 1944
USS Snook	SS- 279	8 April 1945
USS Thresher	SSN-593	10 April 1963



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 Joe Testa



April means warmer weather; vacations and other happenings are just around the corner. It also means that the busiest time of the year for the Columbus Base has arrived, so keep an eye peeled for what we are up to.

The most important thing I would like to address this month is communication, so let me take a few lines to make my point. I understand that we are not all computer gurus, but the reality of 2008 is that email is how today's society operates. I receive a massive amount of information each week, and from the feedback I have received, everyone likes my weekly broadcast format to get this information into your hands. But what about our members that don't have an email address, how do they stay informed? I would recommend that if you do not have the ability to get emails from the Columbus Base, that you find a way to correct that. Secondly, for those that do have email, check it as often as possible. We will be sending out the information concerning upcoming meetings, parades, and other events through email messages. When you see what is going on in my activities column, you will see why keeping up to date is important. If you cannot access a computer for some reason, let us know and we will put you on a list to call you.

For anyone interested in going to the USSVI convention in Ft. Worth, I urge you to make your reservations. I'm not sure when the USSVI special price ends, but at less than \$100/night at the Hilton is a good deal.

For those you had their pictures taken at the Submarine Dinner, they all came out very nice. The reason is that Jim Koogler and I are determined to complete the Base Directory, and we will be taking picture again at the May Base meeting. If you cannot attend, please send Jim a picture and he will make it work.

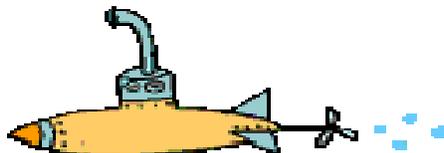
Finally, I had the opportunity to read and review Ken Sewell's new book, *All Hands Down*. The review will appear elsewhere, but let me bring you up to date on the book sales. As with *Red Star Rogue*, Ken has generously worked out a deal where we purchase the book at a reduced price and then resell it to the general public. Ken will sign all copies purchased through the Columbus Base, and the profit less our donation to charity will then go to our treasury. Join us on April 19 at 3PM at the Easton Border's location, wear your vest and help us support Ken.

ALL HANDS DOWN is available thru our base web site for pre orders. The book is to be released April 15th. All of our copies are autographed by Ken and also remember that a portion of our sales will go to the USSVI charities fund.

Visit us at, www.columbusbase.com

Vice Commander's Corner

By Jim Tolson



Submarine Birthday Dinner

We had a delightful dinner at the Buckeye Lake VFW. The food was great and there was plenty of it. The room worked well for dinner and telling sea stories. My wife understood and enjoyed the video on the Civil War submarine Alligator. The video discussed possible CO₂ removal on the Alligator and also discussed the Battelle developed lithium curtains used on today's submarines. Did you know that our own Cliff Dodson worked on the design of those curtains?

I enjoyed visiting with our newest Columbus Base member – Bryan Ledbetter and his wife Lisa. They live in Hilliard.

Thanks to Dave and Jan Creekmore for planning and coordinating an excellent dinner.

Adopt a Highway – Saturday April 19th at 9:30 AM

Our Adopt A Highway cleanup day has been set for Saturday April 19th. We will meet at 9:30 AM at the Don Gentile American Legion Post, 1571 Demorest Road, Columbus OH 43228. You are welcome to join us!

All Hands Down book signing - Saturday April 19th at 3 PM.

Ken Sewell announced he will be at the Easton Barnes and Noble at 3 PM Saturday April 19th signing his new book, *All Hands Down*. Dave Creekmore and Bill Anderson will have copies you can buy if you want to go. Be sure and wear your USSVI vest to the Barnes and Noble store.

Powell Memorial Day Parade – Monday May 26th

During the Dublin parade, we received an added bonus when we met some new submarine shipmates and they joined Columbus Base. Start planning for the Powell Memorial Day Parade Monday May 26th. We need to be there by about 9:30 AM. The parade starts at 10 AM. Watch for more information. We will have maps at the May Columbus Base meeting.

Next Columbus Base meeting May 3rd

Cliff Dodson, Columbus Base Webmaster, is planning to have a live demo of the Columbus Base web site. If you have any questions on how to use a particular function on the web site, you don't want to miss this meeting.

See you Saturday April 19th for our Adopt A Highway cleanup.

Respectfully,

Jim Tolson



Remember to bring your coffee, tea or hot chocolate donations for the VA Hospital to the monthly meetings! We are also accepting copies of the American Submariner that you may be done reading or get two in your household. They do appreciate our members donations for the

Newsflash from USS Columbus

Dear Columbus Base,

I am very pleased to say that I'm writing this note while submerged at 450 feet and 20 knots somewhere in the western Pacific Ocean. The USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762) has completed its first month of a six-month deployment. After our departure from Pearl Harbor, we had a brief stop in Guam, followed by an extended operational period. I expect that we'll have a few more short visits in Guam and Saipan over the next several weeks, followed by more extended operations.

The ship has performed superbly thus far. I am particularly proud of this group, since many of them lived through the roughest times back in the shipyard. The team has really come together, and one senses genuine sense of pride and accomplishment among them. I truly believe that those of you who stood the watch before us would recognize the legacy you helped build in their professionalism. Today's submariners honor the history of our great service through their dedication and professionalism. Sadly for me, this almost surely is my last sea assignment in the Submarine Force. But I have no doubt that I will leave knowing that the future is in the good hands of the fine young Americans who are today's Submarine Force. And, as it has always been--and may it always be--every single one of them is a volunteer.

In other news, our ship has a new XO. He's LCDR Lincoln Reifsteck, who hails from Fairfield, CA. He has plenty of operational experience, and he's a fine addition to our wardroom and ship. His predecessor, LCDR Curtis Duncan, did a superb job in shepherding the ship out of the shipyard and preparing COLUMBUS for its first deployment in four years. Curtis is staying Hawaii, and will work at the U.S. Pacific Command.

Thank you all again for your support of our ship, the Submarine Force, and the United States Navy. I hope to get back to Columbus once more this fall, and look forward to seeing you then.

Best Regards,
CDR Jim Doody
Commanding Officer
USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762)

Boatswain, Coxswain or Skiffswain

As required by 17th century law, British ships-of-war carried three smaller boats—the boat, the cock boat and skiff. The boat—or gig—was usually used by the captain to go ashore and was the larger of the three. The cock boat was a very small rowboat used as a ship's tender. The skiff was a lightweight all-purpose vessel. The suffix “swain” means keeper, thus the keepers of the boat, cock and skiff were called boatswain, coxswain and skiffswain respectively. Until 1949, a boatswain's mate 3rd class in the Navy was called a coxswain.

Nautilus History

“The Day” 4/6/08

On April 1, U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney joined others in Congress to introduce a resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of the crossing of the North Pole by the USS Nautilus (SSN 571) and its significance in history. Excerpts of his introduction follow:

I rise today to introduce a resolution to honor an important anniversary not only to my district, but to our Navy and our nation. In June 1958, the USS Nautilus (SSN 571), the world's first nuclear powered submarine, departed Seattle as part of a top secret operation called "Operation Sunshine." Unknown to many at the time, the Nautilus was embarking on a historic mission that took them on a course north to the Arctic Ice cap. .. on Aug. 3, 1958, the boat became the first vessel to cross the geographic North Pole when Cmdr. William Anderson, Nautilus' commanding officer, announced to his crew: "For the world, our country, and the Navy - the North Pole."

This historic crossing of "90 North" took place at a critical time in our nation's history: the Cold War was heating up, the Soviet Union had seemingly laid claim to space with the launch of Sputnik, and many Americans - and many around the world - were looking for something to rally around, a sign that we were not ceding big ideas and notable achievements to others. Having reached the North Pole, the Nautilus clearly demonstrated our undersea superiority and opened the region to decades of scientific research and exploration.

The crossing of the North Pole was praised by numerous world leaders of the time, being described by President Eisenhower as a "magnificent achievement" from which "the entire free world would benefit." A ticker tape parade was held in honor of the crew in New York City, the Nautilus became the first naval vessel in peacetime to receive the Presidential Unit Citation for its meritorious efforts in crossing the North Pole and Cmdr. Anderson was awarded the Legion of Merit.

In the 50 years since, the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard have repeatedly followed in the footsteps of this historic voyage. Dozens of U.S. submarines, in addition to specially fitted vessels and general aircraft of the Coast Guard, have journeyed to the top of the world in service of their country and to reinforce our Arctic presence. These submarines and their intrepid crews have broken through to the surface, charted new courses and expanded our knowledge of the Arctic.

Built and launched at Electric Boat in Groton on Jan. 21, 1954, the Nautilus was the first vessel in the world to be nuclear powered. After claiming their historic milestone at 90 North and returning home to Naval Submarine Base New London, the Nautilus continued to establish a series of naval records in her distinguished 25-year career, including being the first submarine to journey "20,000 leagues under the sea."

The history and the legacy of the Nautilus is not only meaningful to my Congressional district, but to the entire submarine force and our nation. Today, the Nautilus proudly serves as a museum where visitors from around the world come to learn about both her history-making service to our nation and the role of the submarine force in securing our nation. The Nautilus truly helped set the tone as the standard bearer for the submarine force, and achievements like the crossing of 90 North both proved the capabilities of our nation at a critical time in our history and raised the bar for all those who came after her.

Too often the critical achievements of our submarine force, our "Silent Service," go unnoticed. I am proud to introduce this resolution today to honor the Nautilus, her crew and the countless individuals who provided support for her journey across 90 North, and urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this important milestone in our nation's history.



April Birthdays

Marcia Dreiseidel	04-02
John T. Leers	04-04
Dave Creekmore	04-05
Denver Smith	04-07
Bob Frier	04-12
Walter Fleak	04-15
Tim Barker	04-24
Dick Estell	04-25
Bernie Kenyon	04-28

Spouses

Judy Rinehart	04-16
Mary Baughman	04-23
Angie Pendleton	04-27
Lisa Ledbetter	04-28



The Conn

Base commander

Joe Testa

Vice Commander

Jim Tolson

Treasurer

Jim Koogler

Secretary

Tom Baughman

Chaplain

Sharon Lloyd

COB

Marv Pastor

Membership Chairman

Storekeeper

Frank Lloyd

Activities Chairperson

Editor

Jan Creekmore

Editor's Note

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

Jan Creekmore at e-mail
creek636@columbus.rr.com

Columbus Base Meeting Minutes April 5, 2008



The March meeting was called to order at 1900 by Joe Testa, Base Commander at the Buckeye Lake VFW with 43 members and guests in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by COB Marv Pastor.

Opening invocation was lead by Commander Testa.

The tolling of lost boats for April was conducted by the COB, and Commander Testa.

Membership Report was given by Jim Koogler. There were 2 new members to report. Bryan Ledbetter, who qualified on the USS Boise in 1995; and Mike Jenkins, who qualified in 1970 on the USS Lewis and Clark. Welcome aboard ship-mates.

Announcements:

USSVI Opportunity Raffle tickets are available for \$20.00 each.

Pictures for the Base Directory will be taken immediately after the dinner.

Next Officer's Meeting will be 4/15/2008 at Joe Testa's home.

Adopt A Highway cleanup will be on 4/19/2008.

Dinner

An Italian Buffet was served by Couples Catering. After dinner there was a screening of a documentary on the Civil war submarine USS Alligator.

Raffle

Total ticket sales were \$225. The 50/50 winner (\$113) was Joe Testa.

Additional winners were:

Sara Dumbauld – Wine

Sara Dumbauld – More Wine

Galín Brady – A DVD of the Alligator documentary

Jim Tolson – Key Chain

Sara Dumbauld – Copy of research notes from Ken Sewell's latest book

Bonnie Koogler – Stuffed bear

Bryan Ledbetter – Copy of research notes from Ken Sewell's latest book

Bill McCorkel – Copy of research notes from Ken Sewell's latest book

George Trace – Copy of research notes from Ken Sewell's latest book

Bob Wells – Copy of research notes from Ken Sewell's latest book

Meeting was adjourned by Commander Testa.

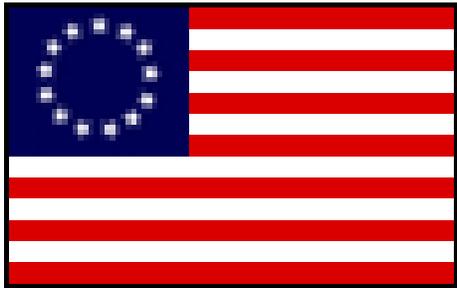
Submitted by

Thomas A Baughman

Secretary



ODOT has done their part, now it's our turn to do our part. April 19th. 9:30 AM, Meet at the Don Gentile Post parking lot.



New Members

Michael J. Jenkins
Powell , Ohio
Delaware County
Wife: Jan D.

Bryan W. Ledbetter
Hilliard, Ohio
Franklin, County
Wife: Lisa A.

Welcome Aboard !

Help Wanted!

Looking for the vacancies in the positions of, **Membership Chairman** and **Activities Chairperson** to be filled. It's time to step up and help out.

Navy Slang Test

**If you can't answer these questions, maybe you should have joined the Army !!
If you are former Army or Air Force, you still should be able to answer at least half the questions.**

**They're all pretty simple, basic questions a Sailor should be able to answer quickly.
Harder questions may follow, depending on participation.**

<http://www.funtrivia.com:80/trivia-quiz/World/Salty-Language-US-Navy-Slang-136994.html>

Georgia



Georgia is one of eighteen Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarines (SSBNs), which provide the principal US strategic deterrent following the drastic reduction of land- and air-based systems since 1991. The whole force comes under the direction of the US Strategic Air Command HQ at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, which is in constant communication with the SSBN fleet. Speed of response is consequently as good as that of ground-based missile silos; Trident missile accuracy is also as good as ground-based systems, and the warhead (each missile carries up to 12) has a 50 per cent higher yield than the most lethal ICBM. All 18 Ohio-class boats are expected to remain in commission until 2002, a year before the Start II treaty comes into effect. This will limit the SSBN force to 14 submarines.

Country:	USA
Launch date:	6 November 1982
Crew:	155
Displacement:	Surfaced: 16,866 tonnes (16,600 tons) Submerged: 19,051 tonnes (18,750 tons)
Dimensions:	170.7m x 12.8m x 10.8m (560ft x 42ft x 35ft 5in)
Armament:	Twenty-four Trident C4 missiles; four 533mm (21in) torpedo tubes
Powerplant:	Single screw, one pressurized water-cooled reactor
Range:	Unlimited
Performance:	Surfaced: 20 knots Submerged: 24 knots

YOUR SUBVET CHARITY NEEDS YOU!

By request of Patrick Householder USSVI

This foundation is the charitable arm of the United States Submarine **Veterans**, Inc. and was formed to further the creed of USSVI by assuming the responsibility of some of our USSVI activities which are charitable in nature. The foundation was approved for tax exemption under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code on December 5, 2000.

Your USSV Charitable Foundation is administered by a Board of Directors who serve without compensation, consisting of the USSVI National & Region Officers plus others appointed by the National Commander and confirmed by the Board each year. Expenses incurred by your Charitable Foundation are normally paid for by USSVI, so virtually all of the funds received are utilized for the charitable purposes for which they were donated.

All donations made to the US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation are tax deductible as allowed by the IRS Tax Code.

Your Charitable Foundation supports your Scholarship Program, Memorials and Museum Submarine Support, the SUBLANT and SUBPAC Caring and Sharing Program, Subvet Disaster Relief, Kap(SS)4Kids(SS) and our Submarine Library.

Ways that you can help.

Send us a gift or make a pledge by completing the attached donor card and mailing it in with your check now.

Three levels of planned giving include \$100 payable at \$10 per year, \$500 payable at \$50 per year or \$1,000 payable at \$100 per year. Of course you can always opt for a one time cash donation of any size.

Matching Gifts: Contact your Human Resources Office to see if your company sponsors a matching gift or payroll deduction program

Planned Gifting: Planned gifts include bequests, gifts of Life Insurance or gifts of Appreciated Stock. The easiest type of planned gift is a bequest to the United States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation. You simply add an amendment or "codicil" to your will, naming the USSVI-CF as a beneficiary of your estate. A bequest in your will allows you to pass on any amount you wish to the Foundation free of estate tax. You can give cash or specific property, a dollar amount or percentage of your estate, with restrictions or without.

Most outright gifts to the Foundation are gifts of cash. But there are tax benefits for contributing gifts of appreciated stock or real estate, and it's just as easy as writing a check. If you have securities or have properties that have grown substantially in value, you can gift them to the Foundation and not only qualify for an income tax deduction, but also avoid long-term capital gains taxes.

Other Planned Gifts. As opposed to outright planned gifts, many donors wish to help guarantee the Foundation's future through estate-plan gifts, which have no affect on the donor's current assets. Through proper planning, you can ensure that your assets are distributed according to your wishes and that your heirs aren't hit with unexpected estate taxes. Turn surplus life insurance policies into a charitable gift, or designate the Charitable Foundation as a beneficiary of your retirement plan. Donors who want to make a lasting gift to the Charitable Foundation, but are concerned about their current financial situation, should consider a life income gift. There are various charitable trust options that pay income to a donor during his or her lifetime, with the remaining assets transferred to charity when the trust term ends. Life-income gifts provide donors with flexibility--you can choose the trustee and investment strategy; the type, amount and timing of payments; as well as the trust beneficiaries.

Submitted by Phil Philipps, an old sailor

Old sailors sit
And chew the fat
About things that used to be,
Of the things they've seen,
The places they've been,
When they ventured out to sea.

They remembered friends
From long ago,
The times they had back then.
The money they spent,
The beer they drank,
In their days as sailing men.

Their lives are lived
In days gone by,
With thoughts that forever last.
Of bell bottom blues,
Winged white hats,
And good times in their past.

They recall long nights
With a moon so bright
Far out on a lonely sea.
The thoughts they had
As youthful lads,
When their lives were wild and
free.

They knew so well
How their hearts would swell
When old glory fluttered proud
and free.
The underway pennant
Such a beautiful sight
As they plowed through an angry
sea.

They talked of the chow
Ol' Cookie would make

And the shrill of the bosun's pipe.
How salt spray would fall
Like sparks from hell
When a storm struck in the night.

They remember old shipmates
Already gone
Who forever hold a spot in their
heart,
When sailors were bold, and
Friendships would hold,
Until death ripped them apart.

They speak of nights
Spent in bawdy houses
On many a foreign shore,
Of the beer they'd down
As gathering around,
Telling jokes with a busty whore.

Their sailing days
Are gone away,
Never again will they cross the brow.
They have no regrets,
They know they are blessed,
For honoring a sacred vow.

Their numbers grow less
With each passing day
As the final muster begins,
There's nothing to lose,
All have paid dues,
And they'll sail with shipmates
again.

I've heard them say
Before getting underway
That there's still some sailing to do,
They'll say with a grin
That their ship has come in
And the Lord is commanding the
crew.