

COLUMBUS BASE SUBMARINE VETERANS

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 10

November 2011



The Green Board



ALL SEAS ARE NAVIGABLE

Veterans Day 2011



Parade submarine on Nationwide Blvd waiting for the start of the parade.



L to R: Dave Creekmore, Bob McDaniel, Dave O'Carroll, Bill McCorkle, Marv Pastor, Bill Anderson, Galin Brady & Jim Tolson



L to R: Dave O'Carroll, Bob McDaniel, Walt Fleak & Bill McCorkle



Bill Anderson & Marv Pastor



Tolling of the Boats



USS Corvina (SS-226) Lost with all hands (82 men) on 16 November 1943 during a Japanese submarine attack off Truk.



USS Sculpin (SS-191) Lost with 40 men on 19 November 1943 when it was sunk by a Japanese surface craft north of Groluk Island near Truk. Forty-two men were taken prisoner but only twenty-one men survived the war.



USS Albacore (SS-218) Lost with all hands (86 men) by possible Japanese mine on 7 November 1944 between Honshu and Hokkaido, Japan.



USS Growler (SS-215) Lost with all hands (85 men) on 8 November 1944 by a possible Japanese surface attack in the South China Sea.

USS Scamp (SS-277) Lost with all hands (83 men) probably on 16 November 1944 from progressive damage in multiple air and sea attacks east of Tokyo Bay.

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 of America and its Constitution.”

Commander's Corner

By Jim Tolson



Be sure and look for the pictures of the Logan and Columbus Veterans Parades in this Green Board. These parades are one of the highlights of the year. The Columbus Veterans parade was dedicated to Viet Nam Veterans. As a Viet Nam vet, I never heard anyone say "Thank you for your service" until I participated in a parade with Columbus Base several years ago. This year, I heard several comments about how different Viet Nam Veterans are being treated today compared to years ago when we left active duty. These parades are good for me as well as reminding those standing on the curb that "Freedom is not Free." I would encourage you to participate in the parades if you are able. There is one chance left this year during the Gahanna Parade of Lights Friday November 25th at 4:30 PM. Three Columbus Base shipmates will be carrying colors for this parade and others will ride on the submarine trailer and ring the bell. Dave Creekmore is coordinating this parade. Let him know if you will be participating with him.

We successfully finished our highway cleanup project in October. Thanks to Bill Anderson for coordinating the last two years, the shipmates that participated and to Captain Lennon and the Franklin Heights NJROTC cadets that have continued to support this project.

Is now the time to pay 2012 dues? The answer is **YES**, unless you are a life member. Everyone has been contacted at least once about 2012 dues. If there are any questions, call me at (614) 345.8977. Thanks to those that have already paid their dues.

Clutch has contacted all members requesting your vote in the 2011 Columbus Base election. Please quickly respond to him. It was good to see Clutch at our November meeting.

Our next meeting is the Christmas Dinner December 3rd. Look for the announcement in this Green Board and **make your reservation**. This year, Frank and Sharon Lloyd will be coordinating a silent auction during our Christmas dinner. If there are some "souvenirs" that your wife has been encouraging you to throw away, this might be a good time to put them in this auction. Based on the silent auction picture that Frank put on the Columbus Base web site, Sharon has been giving Frank a lot of encouragement. We are also collecting Toys for Tots if you would like to bring an unwrapped toy or money to donate. We will be entertained by a live pianist during the social hour and our dinner. You never can tell, Frank Lloyd might sing a solo.

We have a lot to be thankful for - have a great Thanksgiving!

Be sure to cast your vote for Base Officers!!

Ballots will be e-mailed to all base members.

Those without e-mail will receive their ballots by snail mail.

Deadline for the vote will be November 28th.



More photos from the Columbus, Ohio Veterans Day Parade
You can see more photos of activities of the Columbus Base at:
www.columbusbase.com

Veterans Day Parade
Logan, Ohio
November 13th



Bob Imel and Marv Pastor



Galin, Dave, Bob McDaniel, Bob Imel,
Jim and Marv



DoD Officials Warn Against Budget Cuts To Nuclear Force

Defense Daily, November 2

Senior Pentagon officials warned Congress yesterday that budget reductions for nuclear weapons modernization and life extension programs could be detrimental to the U.S. strategic deterrence.

"While we recognize that fiscal austerity will constrain spending on national security programs in the years ahead, significant reductions to funding for our nuclear enterprise will place our strategic and extended deterrence commitments at risk," James Miller, the Pentagon's principal deputy undersecretary for defense policy, said.

Miller, testifying before the House Armed Services Committee sub panel for strategic nuclear forces, cited the more than \$400 million dollars in cuts recommended by the House and Senate appropriations to the National Nuclear Security Administration's fiscal 2012 budget request.

"Without adequate funding for the NNSA, however, the nuclear weapons life extension programs, nuclear infrastructure, and the retention of the people on which we depend to maintain a safe, secure and effective nuclear arsenal are all at risk," Miller said.

Miller said reductions to modernizing the nuclear fleet, which has been identified as a top priority, would be "shortsighted."

"The U.S. nuclear weapons infrastructure requires significant and immediate investment," Miller said, later adding: "I understand the budget pressures, but the nuclear enterprise is an area where there is a need to invest now to save money later."

The Pentagon is facing at least \$450 billion in cuts over the next 10 years. The department's top nuclear officers have been trying to fend off any cuts to modernizing nuclear weapons or moves to eliminate one of the three triads for delivering nuclear weapons.

Air Force Gen. Robert Kehler, the chief of Strategic Command, told the same committee that funding was vital for the sustainment of the sea-, land-, and air-based components of the triad. He called for support for the Ohio-class SSBN replacement program, the development of a next generation long-range bomber, and follow-on to the ICBM.

"Continued funding support is essential to the long-term safety, security and effectiveness of our nation's nuclear deterrent force," he said.



1944 - USS ALBACORE (SS-218) with Lt. Cmdr. H.R. Rimmer in command, left Pearl Harbor, HI on October 24, 1944. She topped off with fuel at Midway on October 28 and departed there for her eleventh patrol the same day, never to be heard from again.

She was to depart her area at sunset on December 5, 1944 and was expected at Midway about December 12th. When she had not been seen or heard from by December 21st, she was reported as presumed lost. Enemy information available now indicates that ALBACORE perished by hitting a mine. The explosion occurred on November 7 while ALBACORE was submerged and was witnessed by an enemy patrol craft.

Albacore earned four Presidential Unit Citations and nine battle stars for her service during World War II. Eighty-five men perished with her that day. She was the forty-second U.S. submarine loss of World War II.

Submariners unsung heroes of Cold War

By Bob Crowley, CNN Photojournalist

(CNN) -- When Al Charette traveled to the North Pole, he went under it.

The USS Nautilus, the world's first nuclear-powered submarine, made history when it reached the North Pole on August 3, 1958, beneath the ice.

Charette, who was part of that Cold War crew, recalls how this milestone was of much more significance than being a historical first.

"What we did," he says, "is really expose 3,000 miles of coastline of the U.S.S.R."

Submarines, which submariners call boats, played a pivotal role in intelligence gathering and nuclear deterrence at a time of political tension between the United States and Soviet Union. Attack submarines sought out and tracked Soviet ballistic missile submarines, while U.S. Navy missile boats tried to keep from being discovered.

"We didn't want to make any kind of a noise that a fish didn't make," the 79-year-old Charette remembers. The Cold War may be remembered as a conflict without any battles, but for submariners, the danger on the front lines was real.

Jack Gallimore started on diesel-electric submarines, including the USS Hardhead and the USS Sablefish in 1958. Cat-and-mouse games of two superpowers aside, risks remain even today for sailors who head out beneath the waves, says Gallimore, now 73.

"All the submariners," he says, "when they go to sea, they're in harm's way."

Gallimore remembers an incident that happened during the turnover of older diesel subs to the Greek navy. He and other crew members acted as observers during the training phase. During a dive, the boat angled down steeply and the propellers shook. The sub managed to surface eventually, yet Gallimore insisted the danger was part of the job.

"We've all experienced when something went wrong," Gallimore says.

Before any sailor can be called a submariner, he has to earn his "dolphins," a pin that's the equivalent to a pilot's wings. The sailors must qualify on the submarines they are to serve by knowing the systems inside and out. The training and testing are rigorous.

Greg Kane, 63, another Cold War veteran, qualified on the ballistic missile sub USS George C. Marshall. Earning that qualification was an enormous source of pride, he says.

"When you had those dolphins on," he says, "you were a submariner. You were a part of the brotherhood of the fin."

The standards to be part of that "brotherhood" exist to this day. Surrounded by a hostile environment at all times while submerged, any mistake by a single submariner could prove dangerous or even fatal for the entire crew.

"My life depended on my other shipmates," says retired Master Chief Bud Atkins, 77, "and it didn't matter whether they were a seaman or a captain." Atkins, who spent time in diesel-electric and nuclear-powered boats, served below the waves from 1950 to 1980, when he retired.

In addition to meeting these tough standards, submariners also faced the responsibility of knowing their boats might have to launch nuclear warheads at a foreign country. Kane, who maintained the launching systems for Polaris missiles during the Vietnam War era, says crew members underwent vigorous psychological testing well before even seeing a submarine.

Various scenarios were thrown at them: What if your boat was called to launch a strike? Could you do it?

The whole idea was really being aware of what the world situation was, what the dire consequences would be if you ever had to go through it and what would happen ... if you didn't have a deterrent force out there to stop something like that from happening," Kane says.

Tom Russell, whose 20-year Navy career took him on a variety of vessels, also served on fleet ballistic missile boats in the 1960s.

"We just hoped that every time we went to battle stations that it was a drill because we all knew if it was not a drill, home would be in pieces," says Russell, 82.

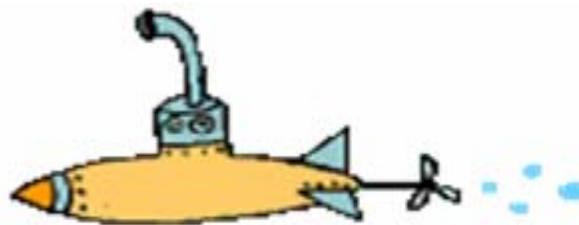
All these retired submariners speak of their service with pride, but they are guarded when it comes to details of their missions long ago.

Charette grows nostalgic when recalling how a submarine could be in harbor or along a coastline and go unnoticed. Or suddenly surface somewhere unexpectedly just to send a message.

Asked if he could describe any of these experiences, he replies with a grin, "Not that I care to talk about."

*There is a video with this if you go to the website below

*This article can also be accessed if you copy and paste the entire address below into your web browser.
http://www.cnn.com/2011/11/10/us/veterans-in-focus-silent-service/index.html?hpt=hp_bn2



Membership Dues
Dues are being accepted for 2012
Payment can be sent to Dave Creekmore

Remember to bring your donations of coffee, tea, or hot cocoa to the monthly meetings.

Your donations are very much appreciated by the veterans at the Chalmers P. Wylie Veterans Clinic.



Submarine Christmas Dinner

VFW 4931, 2436 Walcutt Road, Columbus OH 43228

Saturday December 3, 2011

1700

Social Hour, Hors D'oeuvres, Silent Auction, Cash Bar

Dinner at 1800

Chicken Marsala

Penne w/ Italian Sausage, Green Peppers & Onions

Tossed Salad

Sesame Seasoned Green Beans

Broccoli Casserole

Rolls & butter

Dessert

Cost \$20.00 per person

Please RSVP attendance by Friday November 25 to
Jim Tolson, TR600JT@gmail.com or Dave Creekmore CREEK636@columbus.rr.com

or phone #614-345-8977 and
Send payment (made out to Columbus Base)
Dave Creekmore
4030 Beaver Run Road
Hebron OH 43025



Columbus Base Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2011

Meeting was called to order by Base Commander Jim Tolson. COB Marv Pastor led the salute to the Flag. The invocation was conducted by the Chaplain, Sharon Lloyd. Tolling of the bell for the lost boats of November was performed by Marv Pastor and Sharon Lloyd. There were 22 members and guests present. The BC welcomed everyone.

Secretary's Report - The October minutes were published in the *Green Board*. There were no corrections or additions. Thank you card from Joe and Mamie Murphy was read. **Treasurer's Report**--Dave reported on the state of the base treasury.

Webmaster Report-Cliff reported he received pictures of auction items and have them on the web site.

Chaplain's Report -Sharon passed around two get well cards for John Leers and Gus/Helen Hoehl. A birthday card was passed around for Joe Murphy.

Membership Report/Introductions - The BC had email from Prince Reece, MM2 (SS), Qual boat USS Groton SSN-694. He thought he may have been in attendance at this meeting. Maybe he will be at the next meeting. He also talked to Chris Taormina, STS2 (SS), navy recruiter in Lancaster about joining our base.

Committee Reports- Activities - Final Highway Cleanup Bill Anderson - Last cleanup was October 8th. 13 cadets, 3 adults with them, and four subvets were in attendance. He said we need help from all who are able. Captain Lennon says the project is a good opportunity for the cadets to meet their community service requirements. Bill said our latest two year commitment is over and we need to decide if we are going to continue this project by next March. Columbus Veterans Day Parade is Thursday November 10th, with noon step off time. Meet at Nationwide Blvd. and Marconi Blvd. You can park at the Veterans' Memorial. The Honor Flight Annual Reunion is November 6th from 1400-1600 at Veterans' Memorial, 300 West Broad. Dave Creekmore and Crew moved wheelchairs on November 4th. Monday November 7th at 0900 they will move wheelchairs again from the Veterans' Memorial to the warehouse for winter storage. The Gahanna Parade of Lights, Friday November 25th. Line up will be a 1630 near Hamilton and Rocky Fork Blvd. You can park in the Kroger parking lot. Columbus Base will provide the color guard. We will need three volunteers to carry the colors. Dave Creekmore, Marv Pastor, Jim Tolson, and Cliff Dodson have put the lights on the net to have it ready for the Parade of Lights. The Logan Veterans' Day Parade is Sunday November 13th. Step off will be 1430. Galin said he would pull the boat. We will have a silent auction at the Christmas Dinner. Sharon and Frank will coordinate. The base was reminded of getting, saving, and thinking of items for the silent auction.

Unfinished Business- the BC said membership renewals for non-life members can see Dave Creekmore at today's meeting. Officer Election Committee: Jim Koogler, Chairman, Joe Testa and Bill Anderson members. Nominations closed October 15th. Ballots returned to committee by November 29th. Election will be by email. A paper ballot will be sent if needed. Nominations from floor, or otherwise, can be made with nominee's permission. Current nominations are for Jim Tolson Base Commander, Tim Barker Vice Base Commander, Dave Creekmore Treasurer, and Bob McDaniel Secretary.

New Business - none.

For the Good of the Order – Anyone interested in joining the Silent Service Motorcycle Club – Ohio Chapter- contact Roger Crombie at the Cincinnati Base. Open Discussion – Bob Friar asked about status of Charitable Organization identification of individual bases. We have the status now but there are more questions still unanswered. Galin told us about visiting Bernie and Elizabeth Kenyon in St. Louis. BC reminded everyone that we are participating in the Toys for Tots and to bring unwrapped Christmas presents at the next meeting. 50/50 winner was Phil Philips -\$48.00- he donated \$20 back to the base. Frank Lloyd won a six pack of beer. Cliff Dodson won a loaf of homemade banana nut bread. Carol Henry won a candle. Bill Anderson won a loaf of homemade banana nut bread. Tim Barker won the book *Young Nelson*. Marv Pastor won a loaf of homemade bread. Bill McCorkle won a loaf of homemade bread. Lowell Dye won a loaf of homemade bread. Jim Tolson won a loaf of homemade bread. Jim Koogler won the book *After the Bounty*. Greg ‘Bones’ Leonard won the book *Admiral Collingwood*. Bob McDaniel won a bag of peanuts. Don Crinkey won the book *The Life of a Sailor*. Sharon Lloyd won some software.

Announcement of next meeting - Next Columbus Base meeting –Christmas Dinner, December 3, 2011- 1700 social hour (hors d’oeuvres, silent auction, cash bar), dinner at 1800, \$20 per person to Dave Creekmore, at VFW 4931 2436 Walcott Road, Columbus, Ohio 43228. RSVP by Friday November 25th to Jim Tolson at TR600JT@gmail.com or Dave Creekmore at creek636@columbus.rr.com or phone 614-345-8977 and send payment (made out to Columbus Base) to Dave Creekmore, 4030 Beaver Run Road, Hebron, Ohio, 43025. Directions to Hilliard VFW 4931: Exit from I-270 at Roberts Road. Drive west one mile to Walcott Road. Turn left (south) and the entrance to VFW is on the left about 300 yards south of the Roberts/Walcott intersection. Menu entrée – Chicken Marsala, Penne/Italian Sausage with green peppers and onions. Tossed salad, sesame seasoned green beans, broccoli casserole, and rolls. Dessert. BC reminded us to clean up area before leaving.

Closing prayer was conducted by Sharon Lloyd.

Call for adjournment motion was made by Jim Koogler and seconded by Frank Lloyd. Motion passed by a voice vote of the majority of the members present.

Submitted by Bob McDaniel
Base Secretary

Upcoming Events

Nov. 25	1800	Gahanna Holiday of Lights Parade step off 1800.
Dec. 3	1700	Christmas Dinner, more details to follow.





December Birthdays

Randy McWilliams	12-02
Gene Lee	12-05
Mary Testa	12-10
Robert Althoff	12-12
Mike Petsch	12-18
Marv Pastor	12-22
Eric Dreiseidel	12-27
Bill Dumbauld	12-30

Binnacle List

Many novice Sailors, confusing the words “binnacle” and “barnacle,” have wondered what their illnesses had to do with crusty growths found on the hull of a ship. Their confusion is understandable. Binnacle is defined as the stand or housing for the ship’s compass located on the bridge. The term binnacle list, in lieu of sick list, originated year ago when ships’ corpsmen used to place a list of the sick on the binnacle each morning to inform the Captain about the crew’s health.

After long practice, it came to be called the Binnacle List.

Editor’s Note

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

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



The Conn

Base commander

Jim Tolson

Vice Commander

Treasurer

Dave Creekmore

Secretary

Bob McDaniel

Chaplain

Sharon Lloyd / Walt Fleak

COB

Marv Pastor

Membership Chairman

Jim Tolson

Storekeeper

Frank Lloyd

Web Master

Cliff Dodson

Editor

Jan Creekmore

Activates Chairmen

Joe Testa

USS Will Rogers (SSBN 659)

Keel laid: March 20, 1965

Launched: July 21, 1966

Commissioned: April 1, 1967

Sponsor: Mrs. Hubert H. Humphrey

Decommissioned: April 12, 1993

Recycled: August 12, 1994

Builder: Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corp
Groton Ct.

First Commanding Officers
CAPT. Robert Y. Kaufman (Blue)
CDR. William J. Cowhill (Gold)

January 3, 1989

The British fishing trawler *New Dawn* collides with the USS Will Rogers suffering major damage to her hull. No injuries are reported.

According to Bill Koonts, former crewmember aboard the USS Will Rogers, "the trawler was following in close behind another one, except that they were running without lights. The skipper of the fishing boat tried to "split the difference" between the turtle shell and our rudder and rammed us!"

Will Rogers (SSBN-659), a Benjamin Franklin-class ballistic missile submarine, was the only ship of the United States Navy to be named for Will Rogers (1879-1936), the humorist.

Following shakedown, Will Rogers culminated her initial training and work-up by conducting a successful Polaris shot in the Atlantic missile range off Cape Kennedy on 31 July 1967. In October of that year, the 41st and last Polaris submarine made her first deterrent deployment.

Will Rogers was based out of Groton, Connecticut, until 1974 when she shifted to a forward deployment at Rota, Spain. She conducted additional deterrent deployments from Rota over the next four years, into 1978, bringing the total number of patrols made to 35.

Around 1975, the boat was converted to carry Poseidon missiles, and the reactor plant was modified to use an S3G core.

Deactivated while still in commission on 2 November 1992, Will Rogers entered the Navy's Nuclear Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program at Bremerton, Washington, the same day. Formally decommissioned and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 12 April 1993, she finished the recycling program and ceased to exist on 12 August 1994.

From: "41" for Freedom by Dale Schoepflin

