

# COLUMBUS BASE SUBMARINE VETERANS

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 11

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# The Green Board



ALL SEAS ARE NAVIGABLE



Merry Christmas





## Tolling of the Boats



**USS F-1, Carp (SS-20)** Lost with 19 men on 17 December 1917 when it was sunk after a collision with USS F-3 (SS-22) off San Clemente, California.



**USS S-4 (SS-109)** Lost with 38 men on 17 December 1927 when sunk after being rammed by USCGC Paulding off Provincetown, Massachusetts



**USS Sealion (SS-195)** Lost with 4 men on 10 December 1941 by aerial bombs during a Japanese air attack at Cavite Navy Yard, republic of the Philippines.



**USS Capelin (SS-289)** Lost with all hands (78 men) on 2 December 1943 by an unconfirmed Japanese surface attack in the Celebes Sea.

“Sailors rest your oars.”



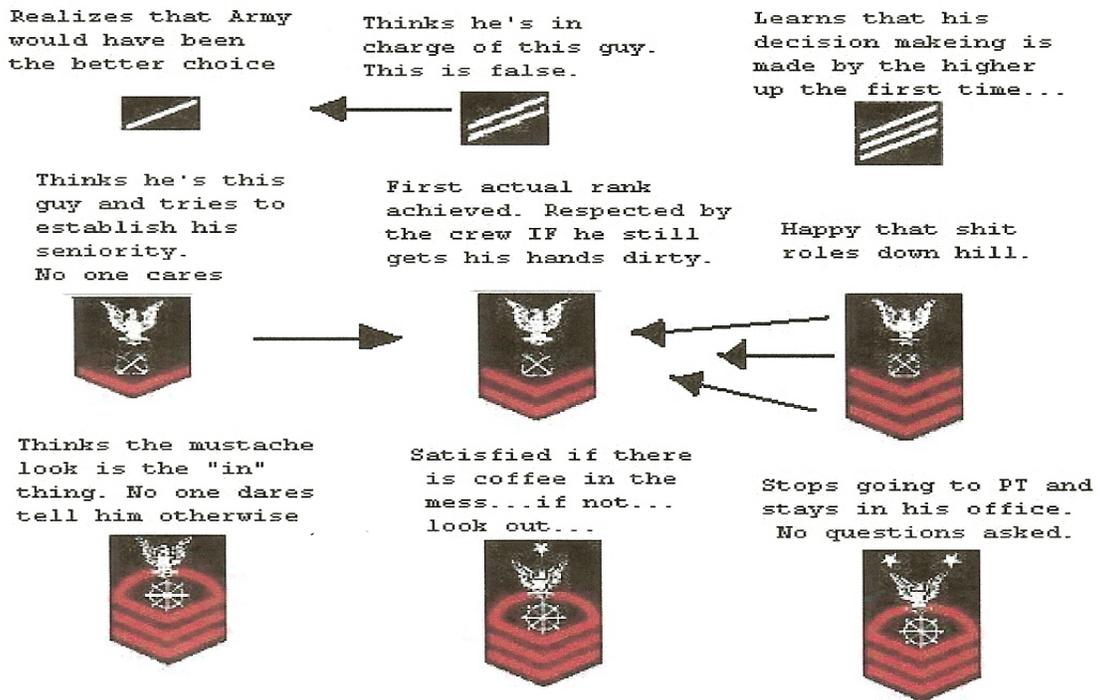
### OUR CREED

“ 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.”



Base commander Jim Tolson with firefighter Jeff, delivering the toy and cash donations from the Columbus Base for the "Firefighters for Kids Toy Drive"

### Enlisted Rank Perspective



From Lowell Dye

## Commander's Corner

By Jim Tolson



It is time to start writing 2013 on our meeting agenda. The base officers have been investigating new meeting locations and as discussed during our Christmas Dinner, on January 5, 2013, our monthly base meetings are moving to the American Legion Leasure-Blackston Post 239, 700 Morning Street, Worthington OH 43085, phone: [614-888-9096](tel:614-888-9096) web: <http://www.alohio239.org/> You will receive more emails about this change. If you have any questions, ask one of your officers.

Again this year, VFW Post 4931 was very cordial in allowing us to have our Christmas dinner at their post. A good time was had by all. I want to thank Karla again for putting together a great dinner with live music. The toys and cash gifts collected for "Fire Fighters for Kids" were delivered to the local fire station. Fireman Jeff Mantas said the cash is used to buy gift cards for the older kids. He was very appreciative of Columbus Base's generosity.

Human Rights – not a topic we often discuss, but one that our shipmate Lowell Dye has been actively discussing for years. Here is a link to the CBS video on Shin's life in North Korea's Camp 14 that Lowell discussed during our Christmas Dinner.

<http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=50136228nb> Shin escaped because he was hungry. Karla and I have a Nook copy of "Escape from Camp 14" if you have a Nook and would like to borrow it.

Welcome to our newest shipmate, Scott Steele. He qualified on USS Seahorse in 1977 and resides in Westerville with his wife, Christine.

If you have any questions about your 2013 USSVI and /or Columbus Base dues, let me know.

### Activities

January 5, 2013 Base Meeting: American Legion Leasure-Blackston Post 239, 700 Morning Street, Worthington, OH 43085.

1200 social, Subway sandwiches will be available and the bar will be open

1300 meeting

Continue to remember our shipmates that on patrol protecting us and our members that are or have been on the binnacle list including Phil & Opal Philipps, Joe Murphy and George Trace when you pray.

Have a Merry Christmas. We are looking forward to a great New Year.

## Membership Dues

Dues are being accepted for 2013

Payment can be made to the base treasurer, Dave Creekmore



## Medal of Honor

The Medal of Honor is the highest military decoration awarded by the United States government. It is bestowed on a member of the United States armed forces who distinguishes himself *conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States*. Because of the nature of its criteria, the medal is often awarded posthumously.

### CDR Samuel David Dealey

Awarded the Medal of Honor on 5/26/1944 while on the SS-257

Also served on: USS S-20 (SS-125); USS Nevada (BB-36)



Dealey had duty on the battleship USS Nevada (BB-36) before training as a submarine sailor. In command of S-20 at the outbreak of World War II, he assumed command of USS Harder (SS-257) upon her commissioning on 2 December 1942. Commander Dealey guided his submarine deep into enemy waters, wreaking destruction on Japanese shipping.

On Harder's fifth war patrol, Commander Dealey pressed home a series of bold and daring attacks, both surfaced and submerged, which sank three enemy destroyers and damaged two others. For his exceptional gallantry in these actions, Commander Dealey was awarded the Medal of Honor.

## Citation

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. Harder (SS-257) during her Fifth War Patrol in Japanese-controlled waters. Floodlighted by a bright moon and disclosed to an enemy destroyer escort which bore down with intent to attack, Commander Dealey quickly dived to periscope depth and waited for the pursuer to close range, then opened fire, sending the target and all aboard down in flames with his third torpedo. Plunging deep to avoid fierce depth charges, he again surfaced and, within nine minutes after sighting another destroyer, had sent the enemy down tail first with a hit directly amidships. Evading detection, he penetrated the confined waters off Tawi Tawi with the Japanese Fleet base six miles away and scored death blows on two patrolling destroyers in quick succession. With his ship heeled over by concussion from the first exploding target and the second vessel nose-diving in a blinding detonation, he cleared the area at high speed. Sighted by a large hostile fleet force on the following day, he swung his bow toward the lead destroyer for another "down-the-throat" shot, fired three bow tubes and promptly crash-dived to be terrifically rocked seconds later by the exploding ship as the Harder passed beneath. This remarkable record of five vital Japanese destroyers sunk in five short-range torpedo attacks attests the valiant fighting spirit of Commander Dealey and his indomitable command."



## Sailors receive Dolphins



121205-N-LP168-011 BANGOR, Wash. (Dec. 5, 2012) Lt. j.g. Jennifer Noonan, assigned to the Blue crew of the ballistic missile submarine USS Maine (SSBN 741), receives her submarine warfare officer device from former shipmate Lt. Jason Brethauer during a ceremony at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor. Noonan is one of three Sailors to become the first female unrestricted line officers to qualify in submarines. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ahron Arendes/Released)

NORFOLK (NNS) -- Three Sailors assigned to USS Maine (SSBN 741) and USS Wyoming (SSBN 742) became the first female unrestricted line officers to qualify in submarines Dec. 5.

Lt. j.g. Marquette Leveque, a native of Fort Collins, Colo., assigned to the Gold Crew of Wyoming, and Lt. j.g. Amber Cowan and Lt. j.g. Jennifer Noonan of Maine's Blue Crew received their submarine "dolphins" during separate ceremonies at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga., and Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, Wash.

In order to receive their dolphins, Leveque, Cowan and Noonan were required to qualify as Officer of the Deck and Engineering Officer of the Watch, perform damage control functions, and demonstrate satisfactory qualities of leadership.

Cowan, a native of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Noonan, who hails from Boston, joined two other Blue Crew officers - Lt. j.g. James Barclay and Lt. j.g. John Schaeffer - in receiving their dolphins. Cowan was pinned by her husband, Naval Flight Officer Lt. Adam Cowan. Noonan chose a former Maine shipmate and mentor, Lt. Jason Brethauer, to pin her dolphins. Schaeffer decided to have Lt. Joe Westfall, a current shipmate from the Blue Crew, conduct his pinning. The Commanding officer of Maine's Blue Crew, Cmdr. William Johnson, pinned Barclay.

"I am honored to participate in today's ceremony honoring these four fine officers who have proven themselves over the past year," said Johnson. "They are truly worthy to join in the great legacy of submariners that have gone before us as 'qualified in submarines.'"

In Kings Bay, Leveque, along with fellow Gold Crew officer Lt. j.g. Kyle E. McFadden, participated in a ceremony presided by Cmdr. Christopher Nash, commanding officer of Wyoming's Gold Crew. Leveque was pinned by her husband, Lt. j.g. Luke Leveque, a qualified submariner onboard the ballistic missile submarine USS Maryland (SSBN 738). McFadden was pinned at the ceremony by Nash.

"Today was a very special occasion. It was special because two talented young officers earned the right to lead the next generation of submarine sailors in the most capable Navy the world has ever known. It was also special because these young leaders fully represent the future of our nation's technical talent," said Nash.

*Continued on next page*

Leveque, Cowan and Noonan are three of 24 women - 17 line officers and seven supply officers - assigned to Maine, Wyoming, USS Ohio (SSGN 726) and USS Georgia (SSGN 729). Maine and Ohio are homeported in Bangor, while Wyoming and Georgia are homeported in Kings Bay.

"I am honored to be joining the long tradition of the submarine force by earning my dolphins and excited for the journey to come. I could not have accomplished this without the help of the wardroom and crew of the USS Wyoming," said Leveque.

Leveque, Cowan and Noonan have each completed strategic deterrent patrols aboard their respective submarines.

"Qualifying is a huge accomplishment for any submariner, and it feels no different for me," said Noonan. "I am thrilled to finally be a member of this elite community. I'm particularly grateful to my crew, officers and enlisted, for supporting me and holding me to the same standards as those who have gone before me. I look forward to being able to fully contribute to the crew now that I'm a qualified submarine officer."

"Qualification in Submarines is more of a personal achievement," said Cowan. "It requires understanding of the many facets of submarine life and has you perform so many skills that when I take a step back and look at everything that I have done and what this qualification means I will do, it is pretty amazing. I see it as that point where I have demonstrated the knowledge and the instinct to perform safely and smartly in all areas of the ship and its missions. Ultimately, it is a monumental mark of the confidence my command and crew has in me. And earning that respect and acceptance is a feeling that I will hold with me for my entire life."

Prior to reporting to their boats beginning in November 2011, Leveque, Cowan, Noonan and the other women assigned to Ohio, Maine, Wyoming and Georgia graduated from the Submarine Officer Basic Course in Groton, Conn. In addition, the submarine line officers under instruction graduated from the Naval Nuclear Power School at Charleston, S.C., and underwent naval nuclear prototype training.

*From Commander, Submarine Forces Public Affairs*

### Upcoming Events

January 5th 1200 American Legion Leasure-Blackston Post 239  
700 Morning St. Worthington, OH NEW LOCATION

## Ex-sailor arrested, accused of attempting to hand over Sub secrets

A former U.S. Navy submarine warfare specialist has been arrested and charged with trying to give classified information about how to track U.S. submarines to people he thought were representatives of the Russian Federation—but who were actually FBI undercover agents, according to federal authorities.

Robert Patrick Hoffman II of Virginia Beach, Virginia, was arrested Thursday morning on an attempted espionage charge.

He appeared in federal court in Norfolk Thursday afternoon for an initial appearance, and the judge granted Hoffman's request for a court-appointed attorney, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office office for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Hoffman will remain in jail pending a detention hearing next Tuesday, the U.S. Attorney's Office said.

According to the indictment, on October 21, Hoffman tried to hand over national defense information to people he thought were representatives of the Russian government, including classified information "that revealed and pertained to methods to track U.S. submarines, including the technology and procedures required."

The government alleges Hoffman intended to harm the United States and give an advantage to the Russian Federation. The court documents do not state whether Hoffman sought any money for the materials.

A law enforcement official told CNN that Hoffman also was seeking money, but the official would not say how much.

The information was given to FBI agents who were conducting an undercover operation. The indictment does not charge the Russian government with wrongdoing.

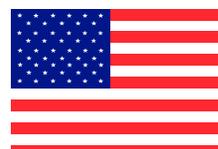
Hoffman, 39, is described as a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Navy who was trained in cryptology and reached the rank of petty officer first class. He retired from active duty in November 2011. According to his biography released by the military, he served as a submarine warfare specialist.

Hoffman held security clearances, and prosecutors say he signed several documents during his tenure in the navy promising not to divulge sensitive information.

A U.S. official said Hoffman's home in Virginia Beach was searched, and was a local storage facility he was renting. The official said there was nothing to indicate that Hoffman passed classified information to "actual Russians" any time in the past, but authorities still have to examine items taken from his home and storage locker.

If convicted, Hoffman could be sentenced to life in prison.

*By Carol Cratty ( from the Nat Greene USSVI base, North Carolina)*



## Navy continues dominance of Army .

### The Navy football team made it 11 in a row over Army in the Annual Army-Navy game on Saturday December 8th

**Bill the Goat** is the [mascot](#) of the [United States Naval Academy](#). The mascot is a live [goat](#) and is also represented by a costumed [midshipman](#). There is also a bronze statue of the goat just inside Gate 1, the main gate to the Academy grounds. This statue also plays a role in "Army Week" traditions.

The Navy Monkey (which was really a gorilla) was the first mascot, which was George Bancroft's favorite animal, and stayed the primary mascot - along with a cat - from 1847 to 1851. The first Bill the Goat appeared in 1893. Currently, Bill XXXIII reigns as the 36th mascot and is the 33rd goat to be named Bill. His backup is Bill XXXIV.

#### Goats at Sea

For centuries, ships sailed with livestock in order to provide sailors with fresh food, and ships in the British and early American navies often carried goats, to eat the garbage and other undesirable food, and return milk and butter. The first usage of "billy goat" for a male goat occurs in the nineteenth century replacing the older term "he-goat."

#### Goats at USNA

There is a legend that a Navy ship sailed with a pet goat. The goat died during the cruise. The officers preserved the skin to have it mounted when they returned to port. Two young [ensigns](#) were entrusted with the skin. On the way to the taxidermist, they stopped by the [United States Naval Academy](#) to watch a football game. At half time, one ensign decided to dress up in the goat skin. The crowd appreciated the effort. Navy won the game.

Photo # NH 101128 "Bill", USS Rhode Island's mascot goat



#### The early years

In 1893 a live goat named [El Cid](#) made his debut as a mascot at the fourth [Army-Navy Game](#). El Cid was a gift to the Brigade of Midshipmen from officers of the [USS New York](#). The goat helped Navy win 6-3 over [Army](#) that year, so he was adopted as part of the team.

There were other mascots in those years, including a gorilla - the very first mascot, two cats, a [bulldog](#), and a [carrier pigeon](#). However, the goat has served without interruption since 1904.

In the early 1900s the beloved mascot was finally given a name. On the return trip to the Naval Academy after Annapolis' triumph over [West Point](#), the goat was led on a victory lap through the train and did not leave the midshipmen until they reached [Baltimore](#).

It was then that the goat was given the name "Bill", which was the name of a pet goat kept by Commander [Colby M. Chesler](#), [Commandant of Midshipmen](#), from 1891-1894.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Mess Cooking on Smokeboats

By Bob "Dex" Armstrong

Many people... those who actually never did it... have a confused idea about the submarine mess cook. They think that a mess cook was at best a flunky assigned menial tasks because he was some kind of mental defective jaybird or some miscreant jerk being punished ala Army KP variety.

The Navy decided early on that putting idiots and pissed off people on boats serving food was a bad idea. I have often wondered how many tough hardboiled, hard as nails Army Non Coms have any idea how many dead flies, mouse turds and boogers they consumed in the course of a career that were served to them by smiling guys they stuck on KP for punishment. It would have to be calculated in increments of tons.

First, the selection process for submarines eliminates the low I.Q. sub-par folks with the intellect of Hostess Twinkies... they end up at one of those boot camps where they issue you a shovel.

Mess cooking is an art... a theatrical art. You audition for the part before 70 to 80 raging maniacs... your crew.

It is a form of animal taming that you do without a chair and whip. It has less to do with cooking than it does with two-man crowd control.

I learned the art from an absolute master... Adrian Stuke. If there is ever a submarine mess cook hall of fame, it will have a forty foot bronze statue of the great Stookey-Man greeting the incoming visitors with a recorded rendition of his actual voice yelling "Park yer' butt and pipe down."

If you were non-rated, either qualified or non-qualified, you mess cooked in rotation. Mess cooking was an equal opportunity profession. If you were E-3 and below and had a masters degree in astro physics, a doctorate in crown princess' gynecology and a fortune rivaling the Sultan of Persia, you mess cooked. There was no appeal process. Your name simply found it's way to the non-prejudicial merry-go-round known as 'Watch, Quarter and Station Bill'. It was that simple. Nothing that you would ever encounter in life would be that fair and that simple other then the mechanical operation of bra hooks.

What did mess cooks do? I am glad that you asked that question, since I apprenticed under the absolute master as previously described. I feel totally qualified to answer your question.

(A.) Mess cooks, first and foremost, herded the incoming chowhounds into the individual Formica-topped tables in the messdeck, in the same manner as cattle are moved into the designated feedlots at the Chicago stockyards. The tables have been previously set with Pyrex dishes and silverware with at least two fork tines going in the same direction. In rough seas red rubber mats were rolled out on the messdeck tables to keep the dishes from doing the North Atlantic Cha-Cha all over hell and half Georgia.

(B.) Next, they served the salad they had previously made.

*Continued on page 12*



### January Birthdays

Linda Dodson	1-05
John Alexander	1-07
James Williams	1-12
Paul Vawter	1-16
Woody Woodmansee	1-20
Jim Tolson	1-21
Joe Testa	1-24
Angelo Naso	1-27
Gene Horton	1-28
Lynn Trump	1-31



#### The Conn

##### **Base commander**

Jim Tolson

##### **Vice Commander**

Tim Barker

##### **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**

**Remember to bring your donations of coffee, tea and / or hot cocoa to the monthly base meeting. Your donations are very much appreciated by the veterans at the Chalmers P. Wylie Veterans Clinic**

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

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

Jan Creekmore at e-mail [creek636@columbus.rr.com](mailto:creek636@columbus.rr.com)

Preparing salad was a mess cook's job. Before my 19th birthday, I learned several culinary skills known only to the finest chefs of Europe. Stuke taught me how to bang a head of lettuce down on the counter on its stalk end making it simple to remove.

And... how to peel the green hide off a cucumber then take a fork and score the sides so that when you slice the damn thing, poker chip fashion the edges looked like gear teeth. After two tours, I was a regular Martha Stewart.

Sometimes we misjudged the amount of salad that would be required for a setting. For example, take rough weather... state five seas running... boat gyrating like a washing machine in the rinse cycle... smell of gastric juice and previously eaten meals wafting forward from the After Battery head. These were indicators of a light turnout, so we didn't prepare a lot of salad.

Sometimes we under estimated the turnout. Stuke found a solution to the situation. He would yell,

"Listen up... I put a toenail in the salad. Five bucks for the guy who finds the toenail."

Suddenly salad consumption fell off considerably. Everyone aboard Requin knew instinctively that Adrian was perfectly capable of tossing a toenail in the salad. We did stuff like that in the pre nuclear Sub Force. Today, any mess cook who pulled off something like that would probably end up in 'acceptable behavior' rehab training.

We served the meals when the animals in each sitting were seated and situated. Absent the civilizing influence of the fairer sex, the prescribed Emily Post gentility rules were forgotten. Elbows on the table, napkins poked in dungaree shirt pockets instead of on the lap and conversing with a mouthload of meatloaf were approved messdeck etiquette. Most of us had to undergo civility retraining by brides as we acquired them.

There was always some jaybird who would say something to the effect that,

"Mother used to make this dish like...."

"Frank, I know this will come as a complete surprise to you but when your mother was cooking, truckers would take the bypass around your hometown to keep from smelling her cooking."

Or the cook would come out of the galley and knock out the lad's plate in the sharpshooter bucket and say,

"Sorry I offended your delicate pallet... go eat down the street."

This is where lion taming technique came in real handy.

*Continued on the next page*

After the meal, the mess cooks were the solid waste specialists...either first and second loaders on the "garbage gun" (GDU or garbage disposal unit.) Or if we were riding on the surface, we would check with the diving officer and request permission to assemble and toss one and two way trash over the side.

Trash dumping at sea was a highly skilled trade... like knuckle ball pitching and cobra breeding.

In those days, as trash and garbage accumulated in the boat, it just stacked up everywhere. You lived with your disposable refuse until you could hit the surface and launch the stuff over the side.

These were the pre Woodsie Owl, EPA days before anyone gave a damn about tons of garbage, medical waste and trash floating in the world's oceans. In those days, you plowed through all sorts of assorted crap snorkeling around out there. As a lookout, I saw oil drums, phone poles and once off the mouth of a South American river, a half submerged bright red VW bug.

Mess cooking kept you down inside the warm boat when the guys on the bridge were freezing their cajones off. It provided you access to hot coffee and leftover cake. It gave you an opportunity to 'Jackass Jaw' the entire crew, three times a day. It allowed you to get a handful of the first tray of hot cinnamon buns to emerge from the night baker's oven. And, it provided the forum where lasting friendships were formed.

Nobody in the crew ever forgot the really good mess cooks.

*Submitted by Bob Frier*

### **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day in United States**

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, which is annually on December 7, commemorates the attack on Pearl Harbor, in Hawaii, during World War II. Many American service men and women lost their lives or were injured on December 7, 1941. National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day is also referred to as Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day or Pearl Harbor Day.

<http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/pearl-harbor-remembrance-day>

A crusty old battleship admiral died and found himself standing before Saint Peter at the pearly gates. Peter welcomed him warmly, "Come right in, Admiral! " Just one thing. Sonny. I hope there's no Chiefs here,. They are the rudest, most obnoxious variety of human ever, and if there are any of them here, I'm not going in; I'd rather go to the other place."

"Don't worry, admiral said Saint Peter. "No Chief has ever made it into Heaven- you'll find none of 'em here."

So, the admiral goes into Heaven. Moments later, he comes upon an amazing sight. It is a swaggering figure in khakis, garrison cap cocked slightly on his head, a mostly empty bottle of Crown Royal in one hand, and a beautiful woman on either arm.

Incensed, the admiral rushes back to Saint Peter and gets in his face. "Hey! You said there were no Chiefs here! So who the hell is THAT?!?"

"Don't worry, admiral, "says Saint Peter gently. "That's God, He just THINKS he's a Chief.

*Submitted by: Bob Holt ,a retired Master Chief.*