

COLUMBUS BASE SUBMARINE VETERANS

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 9

October 2013



The Green Board



ALL SEAS ARE NAVIGABLE

The Birth of the Navy of the United States

On Friday, October 13, 1775, meeting in Philadelphia, the Continental Congress voted to fit out two sailing vessels, armed with ten carriage guns, as well as swivel guns, and manned by crews of eighty, and to send them out on a cruise of three months to intercept transports carrying munitions and stores to the British army in America. This was the original legislation out of which the Continental Navy grew and as such constitutes the birth certificate of the navy.

To understand the momentous significance of the decision to send two armed vessels to sea under the authority of the Continental Congress, we need to review the strategic situation in which it was made and to consider the political struggle that lay behind it.

Americans first took up arms in the spring of 1775, not to sever their relationship with the king, but to defend their rights within the British Empire. By the autumn of 1775, the British North American colonies from Maine to Georgia were in open rebellion. Royal governments had been thrust out of many colonial capitals and revolutionary governments put in their places. The Continental Congress had assumed some of the responsibilities of a central government for the colonies, created a Continental Army, issued paper money for the support of the troops, and formed a committee to negotiate with foreign countries. Continental forces captured Fort Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain and launched an invasion of Canada.

In October 1775 the British held superiority at sea, from which they threatened to stop up the colonies' trade and to wreak destruction on seaside settlements. In response, a few of the states had commissioned small fleets of their own for defense of local waters. Congress had not yet authorized privateering. Some in Congress worried about pushing the armed struggle too far, hoping that reconciliation with the mother country was still possible.

Yet, a small coterie of men in Congress had been advocating a Continental Navy from the outset of armed hostilities. Foremost among these men was John Adams, of Massachusetts. For months, he and a few others had been agitating in Congress for the establishment of an American fleet. They argued that a fleet would defend the seacoast towns, protect vital trade, retaliate against British raiders, and make it possible to seek out among neutral nations of the world the arms and stores that would make resistance possible.

Still, the establishment of a navy seemed too bold a move for some of the timid men in Congress. Some southerners agreed that a fleet would protect and secure the trade of New England but denied that it would do that of the southern colonies. Most of the delegates did not consider the break with England as final and feared that a navy implied sovereignty and independence. Others thought a navy a hasty and foolish challenge to the mightiest fleet the world had seen. The most the pro-navy men could do was to get Congress to urge each colony to fit out armed vessels for the protection of their coasts and harbors.

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Tolling of the Boats



USS O-5 (SS-66) Lost on 29 October 1923 with the loss of 3 men when it was sunk after a collision with the SS Ababgarez (owned by the United Fruit Company) off the Panama Canal. Torpedoman Mate 2nd Class (SS) Henry Berault received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic actions.



USS Dorado (SS-248) Lost with all hands (76 men) by an air attack on 12 October 1943 in the SW Atlantic



USS Seawolf (SS-197) Lost with all hands (82 crew and 17 U.S. Army) on 3 October 1944 when it was mistaken for a Japanese submarine and sunk by friendly destroyers just north of Morotai, Republic of the Philippines.



USS S-44 (SS-155) Lost on 7 October 1943 with the loss of 54 men when it was sunk by surface craft off Paramushiru, Kuriles. Two men survived and were taken prisoner.



USS Wahoo (SS-238) Lost with all hands (80 men) during a Japanese air and surface attack on 11 October 1943 in LaPerouse Strait off northern Japan.



USS Escolar (SS-294) Lost with all hands (82 men) by possible Japanese mine in the Yellow Sea off China on 17 October 1944



USS Darter (SS-227) Lost on 24 October 1944 when it became grounded on Bombay Shoal off Palawan then was destroyed. All of the crew were rescued by the USS Dace.



USS Shark II (SS-314) Lost with all hands (90 men) on 24 October 1944 when it was sunk by Japanese surface craft in the channel midway between Hainan and Bashi Channel.



USS Tang (SS-306) Lost with 78 men on 25 October 1944 when it was sunk by her own torpedo in the north end of the Formosa Strait. Nine of the crew were taken prisoner and survived the war. Her commanding officer, Richard O'Kane, received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Commander's Corner

By Jim Tolson



Thanks to Tim Barker, Vice Commander, for facilitating the October meeting. After reading the meeting minutes, it looks like it was a good meeting.

We have a unique opportunity to have a guest speaker at our November 2 meeting that knows about health insurance in Ohio and the Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIP). Christine Moeller is the Assistant Program Director for OSHIIP. Bring your questions. Her husband is stationed at the MEPS (Military Entrance Processing Station) in Gahanna.

You have until October 15th to make officer nominations to the Officer Nominating Committee. Bill Anderson is chairman and Marv Pastor and Bob McDaniel are also serving. Give your nomination to one of these shipmates. You can nominate yourself! If you have any questions about requirements of a job, just ask. We still need a Secretary nomination.

I will be collecting 2014 dues between now and the end of the year. Unless you are a lifetime member, you can give your \$30 annual dues to Dave Creekmore, Treasurer. If you have specific questions, let me know. I will be sending out emails to those that have dues to pay. Thanks to those that paid at the October meeting.

Don't forget our "Silent Auction" during our Christmas Dinner. Now is a good time to start "cleaning out those treasures in your basement" and finding things to put in the auction. One of the highlights of the dinner is watching Frank Lloyd handle the auction.

Activities

- October 19 Highway Cleanup
- October 31 Move Honor Flight Wheel Chairs – 9AM at the airport.
- November 2 Columbus Base Monthly Meeting at the American Legion Leasure-Blackston Post 239, 700 Morning Street, Worthington, OH 43085.
1200 social & sea story hour, 1300 meeting
- November 8 Columbus Veterans Day Parade – noon step off, Geoff Durbin has agreed to pull the boat.
- November 10 Logan Veterans Day Parade, 3 PM Step off
- November 11 Honor Flight: The Movie – more information coming
- November 14 Kap(SS)4Kid(SS)
- November 29 Gahanna Festival of Lights – Step off 6 PM. Columbus Base is providing Color Guard.
- December 7 Christmas Dinner & Silent Action

Heart warming CHILI and Sub Sandwiches

At the November Meeting

Come hungry!

Deadline is October 15th

Election for Base Officers Is Coming Soon.

The nominating committee is looking for a few good men to run for office. The positions open this year are: Base Commander, Vice Commander, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are interested or you know someone who is and have their permission to nominate them, please contact one of the nominating committee.

They are:

Bill Anderson, Bob McDaniel and Marv Pastor



Navy's 238th Birthday

The United States Navy traces its origins to the Continental Navy, which the Continental Congress established on 13 October 1775, by authorizing the procurement, fitting out, manning, and dispatch of two armed vessels to cruise in search of munitions ships supplying the British Army in America. The legislation also established a Naval Committee to supervise the work. All together, the Continental Navy numbered some fifty ships over the course of the war, with approximately twenty warships active at its maximum strength.

After the American War for Independence, Congress sold the surviving ships of the Continental Navy and released the seamen and officers. The Constitution of the United States, ratified in 1789, empowered Congress "to provide and maintain a navy." Acting on this authority, Congress ordered the construction and manning of six frigates in 1794, and the War Department administered naval affairs from that year until Congress established the Department of the Navy on 30 April 1798.

Not to be confused with the Navy Birthday or the founding of the Navy Department is Navy Day. The Navy League sponsored the first national observance of Navy Day in 1922 designed to give recognition to the naval service. The Navy League of New York proposed that the official observance be on 27 October in honor of President Theodore Roosevelt, who had been born on that day.

In 1972 Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt authorized recognition of 13 October as the Navy's birthday. In contrast to Navy Day, the Navy Birthday is intended as an internal activity for members of the active forces and reserves, as well as retirees, and dependents. Since 1972 each CNO has encouraged a Navy-wide celebration of this occasion "to enhance a greater appreciation of our Navy heritage, and to provide a positive influence toward pride and professionalism in the naval service."



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."

Continued from page one

Then, on 3 October, Rhode Island's delegates laid before Congress a bold resolution for the building and equipping of an American fleet, as soon as possible. When the motion came to the floor for debate, Samuel Chase, of Maryland, attacked it, saying it was "the maddest Idea in the World to think of building an American Fleet." Even pro-navy members found the proposal too vague. It lacked specifics and no one could tell how much it would cost.

If Congress was yet unwilling to embrace the idea of establishing a navy as a permanent measure, it could be tempted by short-term opportunities. Fortuitously, on 5 October, Congress received intelligence of two English brigs, unarmed and without convoy, laden with munitions, leaving England bound for Quebec. Congress immediately appointed a committee to consider how to take advantage of this opportunity. Its members were all New Englanders and all ardent supporters of a navy. They recommended first that the governments of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut be asked to dispatch armed vessels to lay in wait to intercept the munitions ships; next they outlined a plan for the equipping by Congress of two armed vessels to cruise to the eastward to intercept any ships bearing supplies to the British army. Congress let this plan lie on the table until 13 October, when another fortuitous event occurred in favor of the naval movement. A letter from General Washington was read in Congress in which he reported that he had taken under his command, at Continental expense, three schooners to cruise off Massachusetts to intercept enemy supply ships. The commander in chief had preempted members of Congress reluctant to take the first step of fitting out warships under Continental authority. Since they already had armed vessels cruising in their name, it was not such a big step to approve two more. The committee's proposal, now appearing eminently reasonable to the reluctant members, was adopted.

The Continental Navy grew into an important force. Within a few days, Congress established a Naval Committee charged with equipping a fleet. This committee directed the purchasing, outfitting, manning, and operations of the first ships of the new navy, drafted subsequent naval legislation, and prepared rules and regulations to govern the Continental Navy's conduct and internal administration.

Over the course of the War of Independence, the Continental Navy sent to sea more than fifty armed vessels of various types. The navy's squadrons and cruisers seized enemy supplies and carried correspondence and diplomats to Europe, returning with needed munitions. They took nearly 200 British vessels as prizes, some off the British Isles themselves, contributing to the demoralization of the enemy and forcing the British to divert warships to protect convoys and trade routes. In addition, the navy provoked diplomatic crises that helped bring France into the war against Great Britain. The Continental Navy began the proud tradition carried on today by our United States Navy, and whose birthday we celebrate each year in October.

From: Naval History and Heritage Command

Electric Boat Gets \$152M More to Build Submarines

Megan Merrigan, NBC Connecticut, Sep 25

A Groton submarine company is getting \$152 million toward the development and design of nuclear-powered attack subs at the New London Naval Submarine Base.

Rep. Joe Courtney announced the contract modification on Wednesday. With this addition, the total value of the contract with Electric Boat of Groton will amount to nearly \$1 billion by the project's completion in 2014.

That's good news for the Navy. The new Virginia-class fast-attack submarines will be specially designed for shallow-water warfare and will allow for attacks both in the water and on shore.

"This investment shows that even in times of fiscal uncertainty, the work that Electric Boat employees are doing each day remains absolutely crucial to the strength of our submarine fleet," Courtney said in a press release.

The original contract was awarded in April 2012 for the construction of three Virginia-class submarines

Why Fielding Fewer Than Twelve Ballistic Missile Subs Could Be Disastrous For America

Loren B. Thompson, Ph.D., Early Warning (Lexington Institute), Oct 3

On October 1, the Capitol Hill weekly Roll Call ran a ridiculous commentary by an anti-nuclear activist arguing that the Navy was seeking a budgetary "bailout" at the expense of its sister services to buy more ballistic-missile submarines than it needs. The boats would replace the current Ohio class of subs, which provide the most survivable part of the nation's nuclear deterrent.

The commentary was full of misleading statements, like the assertion that "the contract to buy the Navy's subs has raced ahead" when in fact construction of the lead vessel was recently delayed by two years. The fundamental flaw in the piece, though, is that the author clearly doesn't understand how nuclear deterrence works. I taught that subject at Georgetown University for some years, so I'd like to briefly explain why it dictates a future ballistic-missile submarine force of at least 12 boats.

The main goal of U.S. nuclear strategy is to prevent war. Nuclear weapons are so destructive that if even a handful of attacking warheads managed to penetrate U.S. defenses, it would be the greatest catastrophe in the republic's history. Millions of people might die in the first hour of war. Because scientists have never devised a reliable way of intercepting all – or even most – of the warheads that might be launched in a major nuclear exchange, policymakers have been forced to rely on a strategy of deterrence. Simply stated, deterrence threatens horrible retaliation in response to nuclear attack. The assumption is that no sane leader would launch a suicidal attack, so America must have a retaliatory force that can ride out a first strike and then respond in a devastating but proportional manner.

Ballistic-missile submarines are central to this strategy because, unlike manned bombers and land-based missiles in silos, enemies can't find them when they are at sea. Obviously, the biggest goal of any aggressor in a nuclear attack would be to destroy the U.S. retaliatory capability, so if that isn't feasible then the attack is very unlikely to occur in the first place. That is why the current fleet of Ohio-class subs are optimized for accomplishing just one mission: staying hidden until they are called upon to punish an aggressor. The submarines are extremely stealthy, and their successors will be even more secure to guard against any breakthrough enemies might achieve in undersea detection.

The commentary in Roll Call contends that "the Pentagon needs to resize the sub program with the understanding that the U.S. can meet today's security challenges with fewer nuclear weapons at less cost." That statement is misleading on two counts. First, the Navy already has reduced the number of ballistic-missile subs in the fleet from 18 to 14 in response to the end of the Cold War, and it plans to further reduce the force when the Ohio replacement becomes operational to a mere dozen boats. Second, the next-generation subs for which the Navy is rightly seeking extra money will not be designed for dealing with today's security challenges, but tomorrow's.

Nobody can say what kind of threats the nation's nuclear force will need to deter 20 years from now. What we can say with near certainty is that preventing a nuclear exchange will remain the top priority of U.S. strategy. So what the nation needs in the sea-based component of its future deterrent force is a retaliatory capability that no enemy could conceivably destroy in a surprise attack. The author says eight boats would be enough, because they could carry "more than 1,000 warheads." That is fallacious reasoning. The nation would obtain a much more credible deterrent by dispersing the same number of warheads across a dozen or two dozen subs, because what matters in nuclear strategy isn't how many warheads you have before an attack, but how many you have after. It's the warheads that survive the attack that deter it from occurring in the first place.

The Navy arrived at the number of a dozen submarines after extensive analysis based on the character of potential threats in the 2030s and beyond, the operational features of future subs, the requirements of national strategy, and the logistical demands of sustaining the fleet at sea. One very important factor in its thinking was the kind of innovations that might enable enemies to find the subs more easily. It was concluded that a force of 12 subs, perhaps eight or nine of which might be at sea on any given day, was the optimum tradeoff of capability and affordability. Any less would simplify an aggressor's targeting challenge in a surprise attack – potentially depriving the U.S. of its most potent deterrent or forcing it to retaliate in a disorganized fashion.

Does that make the Ohio replacement program expensive? Yes it does – but nowhere near as expensive as the cost of even one nuclear warhead falling on an American city. Buying the right number of ballistic-missile submarines for future deterrence is much more important than getting the Army another tank or filling out the Air Force's fighter squadrons. Nuclear deterrence is about national survival. Trying to save money by purchasing a less capable deterrent would be really, really dangerous.



COLUMBUS BASE MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2013

Meeting was called to order by Base Vice Commander Tim Barker. COB Marv Pastor led the salute to the Flag. The invocation was conducted by the Chaplain Walt Fleak. Tolling of the Bell for lost boats of October was performed by Marv Pastor and Sharon Lloyd. There were 18 members and guests present. The BVC welcomed everyone.

Secretary's Report – The September meeting minutes were published in the *Green Board*

Treasurer's Report- Dave Creekmore gave a report on the state of the Base's Treasury.

Webmaster's Report – Cliff reported he is back and will be updating the web site as needed.

Chaplain's Report- Sick Bay report –Sharon reported she sent a sympathy card to Ron Waldron on the loss of his wife. He sent the base a thank you card in return.

Membership Report/Introductions – BVC introduced new member Geoff Durban, MMC, Qualified in 1981 on USS Seahorse

Committee Reports-

- Bill Anderson reported the next Highway cleanup will be October 19th. This will be final cleanup of the year. Meet at 0830 at the Don Gentile American Legion Post #532 1571 Demorest Road, Columbus, Ohio 43228. He reported the base is now a gold star recipient for 5 years of highway cleanup. He said Captain Lennon said we should have a good turnout of cadets. This is the last year of our current contract with ODOT so we will need to be making a decision in the upcoming months on whether we will continue this project. Bill said he is ready for somebody else to step up to the chairman position.
- October 31st at 9AM will be date and time for moving the Honor Flight Wheel Chairs from the airport to storage – reported by Dave Creekmore. More details will be transmitted as they are available.
- November 2nd at our next Columbus Base Meeting we will have a special speaker on Health Insurance. The speaker is Christine Moeller, Asst. Program Director/OSHIP (Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program) Ohio Dept. of Insurance. Bring your questions.
- November 8th (Friday) Columbus Veterans Day Parade with a noon step off starting on Nationwide Blvd. Geoff Durbin volunteered to pull the boat for this event.
- November 10th (Sunday) is the Logan Veterans Day Parade with a 3 PM step off. Galin Brady will pull boat for this event. He said we are automatically signed up for this parade until we decide we don't want to participate.
- November 14th (Thursday) Kap(SS)4Kid(SS) at Children's Hospital. While we are limited to 4 adults at a time on the floor for the event, more can participate on a rotating basis. All base members, associates, and spouses are invited to participate. More information will be out at the next base meeting.
- November 29th (Friday) Gahanna Festival of Lights Parade with step off at 6PM with the base providing the color guard.

- December 7th (Saturday) Christmas Dinner at VFW in Hilliard at same place as last year.

Unfinished Business –none

New Business -none

For the Good of the Order –

- Officer Nomination Committee- Marv Pastor, Bob McDaniel, and Bill Anderson, committee chairman.

Nominations close October 15th.

Election will be by email. A paper ballot will be sent if needed.

Ballots must be returned to committee by November 22nd.

Nominations from the floor can be made with nominee's permission. Bill Anderson said also anyone can volunteer to put their name on the ballot. He said the Base Commander and Vice Commander positions have to be held by regular attending base members. The Treasurer and Secretary can be a regular base member or an associate member. The current slate is: Base Commander – Jim Tolson, Vice Commander - Tim Barker, Treasurer – Jim Koogler, and Secretary – no candidates.

- USSVI convention report/discussion – Galin Brady and Bob Frier discussed highlights of the convention. Galin put in a pitch for voting for having the convention on an annual basis. They also said the convention meetings are on the USSVI web site.
- The base discussed the possibility of the base participating in the Memorial Day Parade in Washington D.C. on Monday, May 26, 2014. We would need to submit application to the national USSVI by October 24th. Five base members present expressed interest in participating in the parade. Galin Brady said he would be willing to pull the boat. Galin made a motion to submit the application for the parade and was seconded by Dave Creekmore. The motion passed by a majority of the members present.
- Jim Koogler reported Helen Hoehl has moved to Hilton Head, South Carolina. He has her telephone number if anyone wants to contact her. Jim also reported on an email he received from Phil Philipp's daughter Carol. She thanked him, Jim Tolson, and the base for participation at her dad's funeral. Dave Creekmore said Phil wanted the base to have the hay wagon that had been used by the base. Dave had to undertake repairs on the wagon but it is now at his place.
- BVC reminded everyone about Christmas dinner and the silent auction – clean out some of your treasures.

2014 dues – checks made out to Columbus Base can be given to Dave Creekmore.

Storekeeper – Frank Lloyd has Holland Club hats for sale - \$20.

50/50

Carol Henry won \$48

Bob McDaniel won a plate of homemade cookies

James Williams won a loaf of homemade bread

Galin Brady won a loaf of homemade bread

Larry Reese won a loaf of homemade bread

Bill Anderson won a plate of homemade cookies

Frank Lloyd won a book "Sea Power"

Bill McCorkle won a can of 'spam' macadamia nuts

Jim Koogler won a 'best marine is a submarine' hat

Cliff Dodson won a loaf of homemade bread

- BVC reminded everyone to help clean up the room. The next meeting on 11/2 at the American Legion Leasure-Blackston Post 239 at 700 Morning Street in Worthington, Ohio 43085, with social hour at 1200 and meeting at 1300.

Benediction was performed by Walt Fleak.

Meeting was adjourned.

Bob McDaniel, Base Secretary



November Birthdays

Sharon Lloyd	11-06
Dave O'Carroll	11-08
Clem O'Brien	11-12
John Palmer	11-14
George Trace	11-22
Ron Waldron	11-28



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



Holland Club Members



Al Albergottie: 1960 USS Blenny SS-324
 John Alexander: 1945, USS Haddock SS-231
 Galin Brady: 1962, USS Swordfish SSN-579
 "Red Downard: 1960, USS Cutlass SS-478
 Bill Dumbauld: 1957, USS Caiman SS-323
 Ed Ellsworth (EP): 1944, USS Blackfin SS-322
 Dick Estell (EP): 1944, USS Scabbardfish SS-397
 Russ Ferguson: 1946, USS Haddo SS-255
 Bob Frier: 1960, USS Menhaden SS-377
 Ben Grimes (EP): 1944, USS Raton SS-270
 "Gus" Hoehl (EP): 1944, USS Flounder SS-251
 Bill Holly (EP): 1957, USS Ray SSR-271
 Gene Horton (EP): 1951, USS Chivo SS-341
 Bernie Kenyon: 1954, USS Hardhead SS-365
 John Leers: 1954, USS Sea Owl SS-405
 "Butch" Leffin: 1957, USS Hardhead SS-365
 Chuck Martin: 1956, USS Pomfret SS-391
 Lee Mather: 1954, USS Crevalle SS-291
 Bill McCorkle: 1956, USS Dogfish SS-350
 Randy McWilliams: 1963, USS Tiru SS-416
 Bill Meyer: 1963, USS Tigrone SS-419
 "Doc" Morin: 1957, USS Raton SSR-270
 Jim Morton (EP): 1963, USS Baya SS-318
 Joe Murphy (EP): 1947, USS Bugara SS-331
 Angelo Naso: 1963, USS Bluegill SS-242
 Marvin Pastor: 1955, USS Razorback SS-394
 Clem O'Brien: 1944, USS Albacore SS-218
 Dave O'Carroll: 1957, USS Salmon SSR-573
 John Palmer: 1951, USS Guavina SSO-362
 John Pendleton: 1954, USS Toto SS-422
 Phil Philipps (EP): 1949, USS Segundo SS-398
 Bruce Rinehart: 1963, USS Tigrone SS-419
 Ron Rossington: 1954, USS Conger SS-477
 "CO" Smith (EP): 1944, USS Nautilus SS-168
 Denver Smith: 1943, USS Grayling SS-209
 Ken Strahm: 1960, USS Bream SS-243
 Sam Templeton: 1956, USS Trutta SS-42
 George Trace: 1951, USS Caiman SS-323
 Lynn Trump: 1960, USS Sea Cat SS-399
 Ron Waldron: 1953, USS Charr SS-328
 Robert Wells: 1947, USS Capitaine SS-336
 John Woodmansee: 1956, USS Hardhead SS-365

Upcoming Events

October 19th	0900	Last Highway cleanup for the year. Meet at the Don Gentile Post
October 31st	0900	Move Honor Flight wheelchairs to storage
November 2nd	1200	Regular monthly base meeting
November 8th	1200	Columbus Veterans Day Parade - step off is at noon
November 10th	1500	Logan Veterans Day Parade
November 14th	?????	Kaps(SS)4Kids(SS)
November 29th	1800	Gahanna Holiday Lights Parade, Base is also the Color Guard.