

# COLUMBUS BASE SUBMARINE VETERANS

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 11

December 2014



## The Green Board



ALL SEAS ARE NAVIGABLE

### *Columbus Base Awards and Christmas Dinner*

#### Holland Club Inductees

George Petershagen is presented his Holland Club Award by Commander Tolson at the Awards / Christmas Dinner on Saturday December 6th. George qualified submarines and received his Dolphins in 1964 on board The USS Remora SS-487.

Cecil Johnson also was inducted as member of the Holland Club. Cecil qualified submarines and received his Dolphins in 1961 on board the USS Dogfish SS-350. Cecil was not able to attend the dinner.



#### Richard A. Larson Shipmate of the Year 2014

Sharon Lloyd  
Base Chaplain



## 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.



### 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



Hard to believe we are ready to close the door on 2014. It has been a busy year, but a fun year. We all fell in love with Ziva Sanderson wearing her sailor dress during the Columbus Veteran Day parade. She is the youngest baby we have had in a parade. Bruce, Sherry and Ziva have their picture in the Veteran Day parade pictures on the Columbus Base web page. I know George Sanderson, Bruce's dad, would be proud.

You are generous shipmates. When the toys were taken to the fire station for Fire Fighters for Kids, they couldn't believe the number of toys and the \$50 cash contribution. Regarding coffee, I took the coffee to VA and saw our shipmate Geoff Durbin. He introduced me to Karen in the volunteer office and she thanked you for the coffee gift. Karen's picture is on the web page.

Congratulations to our 2014 Shipmate of the Year - Chaplain Sharon Lloyd. Columbus Base appreciates the way she contacts ailing shipmates, sends out cards, and brings delicious bread and treats to the meetings. Sharon is an inspiration to our base.

BZ awards were given to Galin Brady for his faithful parade support all year and to Wade Kiger for leading Highway Cleanup all year. Congratulations to both of these shipmates. There are others that support Columbus Base and I want to thank them too.

This year we combined the Christmas dinner with the Awards / Holland Club dinner as an effort to reduce dinner costs by combining two dinners. If you want to continue combining them or would rather have two separate dinners, let the officers know.

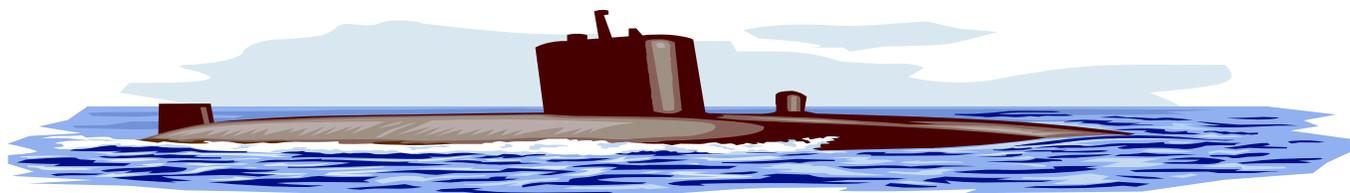
Although this is Jan's last Green Board, she still is retaining the title of *Editor Emeritus*. She is always welcome to provide articles to the new editor. Columbus Base appreciates Jan's 10 years of hard work that has made the Green Board a top rated newsletter.

Reminder: Jim Koogler and I are collecting 2015 dues from the 17 (seventeen) shipmates owing \$30 National & Base dues and the 9 (nine) owing \$10 Base dues. A check made out to Columbus Base can be mailed to Jim Koogler, 2402 Lyncross St, Grove City, OH 43123. Call Clutch or me with any questions.

The Columbus Base Officers wish you and your family a Merry Christmas.

### Activities

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Jan 3, 2015 | Columbus Base Monthly Meeting at American Legion Leasure-Blackston Post 239, 700 Morning Street, Worthington, OH 43085.<br>1200 social & sea story hour, 1300 meeting |
| Feb 7, 2014 | Columbus Base Monthly Meeting at American Legion Leasure-Blackston Post 239, 700 Morning Street, Worthington, OH 43085.<br>1200 social & sea story hour, 1300 meeting |





Wade Kiger receiving a Bravo Zulu Award from Commander Tolson for his leadership with Adopt a Highway.



Galin Brady receiving a Bravo Zulu Award for towing the parade sub to all of the parades this year.



Dave Creekmore receiving the Green Board Editors Award for support and opinions to the editor for 10 years

Commander Tolson presenting Shannon Abner with a Bravo Zulu Award for the great catering she does for the base dinners



Commander Tolson presenting Jan Creekmore, Green Board Editor, a plaque and gift card for 10 years of publishing the base newsletter.



# Merry Christmas





## COLUMBUS BASE MEETING MINUTES

### Christmas / Awards / Holland Club Dinner

December 6, 2014

Meeting was called to order by Base Commander Jim Tolson. Treasurer Jim Koogler served as Master of Ceremony for the Awards / Holland Club program. COB Dave Creekmore led the salute to the Flag. The invocation was conducted by the Chaplain Walt Fleak. Tolling of the Bells for December's lost boats was conducted by the COB and Chaplain Sharon Lloyd. Sharon also read the list of Holland Club shipmates on Eternal Patrol. There were 33 members and guests present. The BC welcomed everyone to the annual Christmas / Awards / Holland Club Dinner.

Chaplain's Report- Sick Bay report – Sharon Lloyd shared news about Bruce Rinehart, Sam Templeton and John Pendleton. Three cards were circulated by Sharon to send to them. Clutch shared the news of his visit with Bruce Rinehart in Lima.

Unfinished Business – Membership renewal for non-life members - \$30 check to Jim Koogler.

For the Good of the Order –

Clutch Koogler shared that Central Crossing High School NJROTC left the morning of Dec 6 for Hawaii. The parade was the evening of Dec 7. A tour and lunch was scheduled on USS Columbus.

Awards: **Jan Creekmore** was presented a Base Thank You plaque and gift card for 10 years as editor of the Green Board. The December edition will be her last edition as editor.

**Galin Brady** was presented a BZ award for supporting parade activities by pulling the boat and inviting new members.

**Wade Kiger** was presented a BZ award for leading 2014 Highway Cleanup and also working on the USS Birmingham (SSN-695) sail project at DSCC.

**Shannon Abner** was presented a Commander's Award for 4 years of faithfully preparing meals for Columbus Base dinners.

Shipmate of the Year: Clutch Koogler and BC presented the award to Chaplain **Sharron Lloyd**. Columbus Base gave Sharon a Standing Ovation for her faithful service.

Holland Club: Clutch Koogler introduced all of the Holland Club members in attendance. **George Petershagen** was given his Qual Boat plaque for being qualified 50 years. **Cecil Johnson's** Holland Club Qual Boat plaque and patches were mailed to him since he could not attend the dinner.



50/50 Sara Dumbauld won the \$  
 Frank Lloyd – wine  
 Charles Sabino – wine  
 Jim Tolson – bread  
 Bill McCorkle – pistachio nuts  
 Tom Mace – bread  
 Bill Dumbauld – corkscrew  
 Carol Henry – book

Walt Fleak -wine  
 Lowell Dye – organizing container  
 Wade Kiger – popcorn  
 Jan Creekmore – bird feeder  
 Tim Barker – DVD  
 Bonnie Koogler – bread  
 Lisbeth Petershagen – bread  
 Bill Meyer – Navy ball cap

Bill McCorkle shared some December 7 submarine history. The boats were being sent out on practice war patrols during this time due to a shortage of aircraft. During the day, they stayed submerged and didn't receive any radio traffic. It wasn't until the evening of December 7<sup>th</sup> that they surfaced to charge batteries and found out what happened.

Dave Creekmore passed along thanks to Columbus Base shipmates from the Opal Philipps family after her funeral.

Clutch Koogler was thanked for his excellent art work on the programs, Holland Club boards and being Master of Ceremonies of the dinner. BC also thanked Cliff and Linda Dodson and Frank and Sharon Lloyd for their help setting up the room for the Columbus Base dinner.

BC reminded everyone the next meeting on 1/3/15 at the American Legion Post in Worthington. 1200 social hour, meeting 1300, subs will be available.

Walt Fleak gave the closing prayer. Meeting was dismissed by BC.

Submitted by Jim Tolson for Woody Cook Base Secretary



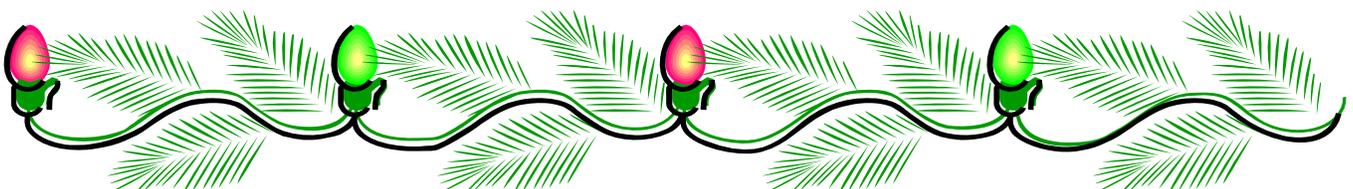
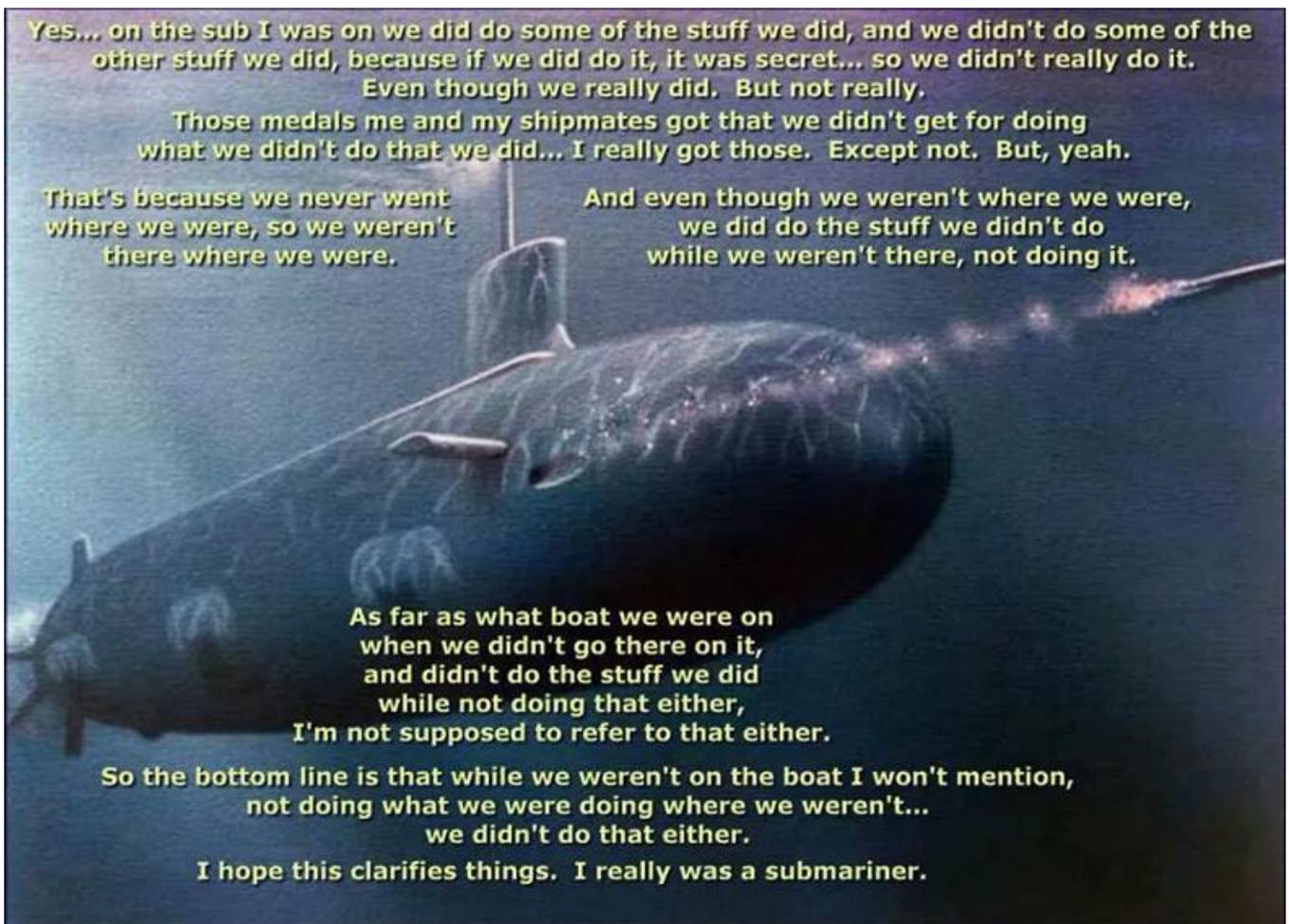
## Upcoming Events

Jan. 3, 2015	1200	Regular base meeting at the Leasure-Blackston American Legion Post #239
Feb. 7, 2015	1200	Regular base meeting at the Leasure-Blackston American Legion Post #239

It's easier to ask forgiveness  
Than it is to ask for permission  
Radm. Grace Hopper

"This is the problem with the "silent service" – we do a lot but because of the nature and classification of movements little is known.

. . . . . those who served in the Submarine Service simply because "what we did was classified".



## U.S. Navy's Newest Addition To Fleet Could Be A Robotic Spy 'Fish'

Daily Press, Dec. 11

It's a fish. It's a sub. No, it's Nemo.

The Navy's newest drone is an underwater robot disguised as a fish — a tuna to be more specific, though the project has been dubbed Silent Nemo, after the popular Disney film about a clown fish.

Currently under testing by the Chief of Naval Operations Rapid Innovation Cell and Boston Engineering, the unmanned underwater vehicle is able to make tight turns and move through the water quietly, making it ideal for surveillance and reconnaissance missions. Once in the fleet, it could be used to inspect the hull of a ship, check waters for threats such as mines or protrusions, deliver payloads including sonar and guidance packages, and access otherwise denied areas.

Capt. Jim Loper, head of the concepts and innovation department at the Navy Warfare Development Command in Norfolk, couldn't say when Nemo would be fully integrated into the fleet. It could become operational as soon as next year, he said.

The 5-foot, 100-pound armature was modeled after a bluefin tuna and uses a rear caudle fin to move through the water just like the fish. The fin is about 10 times quieter than a rotating propeller.

"The idea is to take millions of years of evolution," said the project's manager, Marine Corps Capt. Jerry Lademan. "This fish has perfected itself by swimming around the water for millenia, so what we are trying to do with this project, the idea of biomimicry, is to reverse engineer what nature has already done to optimize design for us."

So the final product looks like a fish and swims like a fish.

"It looks alive," Lademan said.

On Thursday, the black robotic fish — also known as GhostSwimmer — glided through the waters at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek controlled by a joystick. It can swim autonomously, but that feature is in the early stages of testing and development.

Loper and Michael Rufo, director of the advanced systems group at Boston Engineering, which specializes in unmanned systems and robotics, said it would take only months to complete the technology for Nemo to swim on its own.

Rufo said the fish's combination of "efficiency, maneuverability and speed" make it relevant for naval operations. It can submerge up to 300 feet, he said, though it has not yet been tested at those depths.

While no weaponry has been developed for Nemo, Loper said the full scope of applications hasn't been exhausted.

"Let your imagination run wild," he said.

The Chief of Naval Operations Rapid Innovation Cell, or CRIC for short, picked up the project about a year ago after initial development by the Office of Naval Research in 2008.

Loper said CRIC's mission is not to bypass the typical military acquisition process, which is extremely costly and time consuming, but to speed up the testing of innovative ideas and get practical feedback from sailors at sea.

"We like to think of ourselves along the lines of a venture capital model," he said. "It takes years and years to get stuff from the drawing board out to the fleet. The CNO realizes that that time line needs to be compressed dramatically.

"What better way to do that than take the ideas that are coming from the young folks that are out there in the fleet and turn those around into prototypes and get them moving," Loper said. "That's where something like Silent Nemo comes."

He called it "harnessing the brainpower of youth."

Lademan, the Marine leading the project, is just 27.

Nemo is just one of about a dozen projects that CRIC is overseeing, Loper said. The cell provides management and overhead costs.

So far, the Nemo project has cost about \$1 million, according to Loper. Once fully developed and tested, CRIC works with private companies to see it produced then the Navy puts in its order.

## Saluting The Silent Heroes of The U.S. Navy's Submarine Force

David J. Kaplan, Fox News, Dec 7

Our most recent elections demonstrated Americans are still very worried about the state of the economy and their own job security. However, there is an employer looking to hire young, motivated, and intelligent men and women – the United States Navy's submarine force.

It's not easy to be eligible for such employment. Officer and enlisted candidates must first graduate from rigorous nuclear engineering training or technical schools for non-nuclear enlisted rates. In addition, applicants must also pass a thorough psychological evaluation. The fortunate few that do indeed make the grade will then embark on a challenging, yet rewarding journey to become a qualified submariner.

After this extensive training pipeline and another intensive qualification process on board an actual submarine, sailors are rewarded with "Dolphins," the chest insignia that signifies membership to an elite brotherhood (and now sisterhood as well, since 2010) that very few individuals have the privilege to join.

On September 21, I, along with 13 other American civilians, experienced a brief glimpse into the life of a U.S. Navy submariner. As the guests of Captain Gene Doyle, the commander of Submarine Squadron 11, we were invited to embark on board the USS HAMPTON (SSN 767), a Los Angeles Class fast attack submarine in the waters near San Diego, California.

The captain of USS Hampton, a no-nonsense, highly respected commander named Lincoln Reifsteck, along with his executive officer, David Fassel and chief of the boat, Richard Moses, welcomed us on board and introduced us to a world few civilians will ever have the honor and opportunity to experience.

We soon learned that Reifsteck's most difficult task wasn't submerging the ship 700 feet below the ocean's surface (the more difficult part is actually the resurfacing process in the crowded waters off San Diego) or even preparing to shoot a tomahawk missile. Instead, Reifsteck's greatest challenge is keeping his sailors motivated, ready, and vigilant 24 hours a day, 7 days a week over a period of several months (please note, the average age of a submariner is only 22). In our short time on board USS HAMPTON, we witnessed Reifsteck's uncanny ability to both motivate and prepare his sailors for any obstacle before them.

During 2013, the Hampton was at sea for 298 out of 365 days. That's 82 percent of the year away from family and friends with no access to a telephone, the Internet, or the daily comforts that we as Americans have grown so accustomed to. There is a very good reason why submariners earn on average 30 percent more than other sailors.

While much of their time underway was spent on surveillance, anti-submarine and anti-surface ship warfare, the HAMPTON spent 70 days at the North Pole with a team of professors from Columbia University taking water samples for research being conducted on current and climate change.

So if you are of the mindset that submarines are all about undersea warfare or hunting the "Red October"; think again. Modern attack subs are now doing everything from the weather change research to delivering special operators ashore on covert operations.

Initially, the outside observer may get the impression that the men of the HAMPTON live a difficult and isolated life onboard a windowless tube with little or no communication with the outside world.

However, we quickly discovered that the crew thrived in this seemingly austere environment. Through our conversations with them, we came to the realization that they live by the submarine mantra of “steel ships, iron men (and women).”

The absence of windows and natural sunlight quickly became irrelevant as the ship’s electronics and sophisticated sensors became their window to the outside world.

Much like an astronaut, submariners become travelers in another medium deep below the sea. Any perceived isolation leads to a greater connection with their “shipmates” forming an everlasting bond amongst the crew.

After only one day underway, it became apparent to us that the submarine service is not for everyone – not all men and women are able to overcome the supposed “sacrifices” many civilians associate with a life at sea.

However, those individuals that successfully complete the demanding screening and training pipeline of a United States submariner, will have excellent advancement and future employment opportunities in both the military and civilian sectors.

Civilian employers are always looking to hire submariners for their technical acumen, leadership skill, and ability to operate under pressure. Those individuals that choose to leave military service are often rewarded with high paying jobs and quickly adapt and excel in the civilian workforce (the military does retain a very high percentage of these highly skilled individuals with large bonuses, special pay and the intangible sense of patriotic duty that accompanies wearing the uniform of a Navy submariner).

Sir Winston Churchill once said, “Of all the branches of men in the forces there is none which shows more devotion and faces grimmer perils than the submariners.” From our experience with the captain and crew of USS HAMPTON, we couldn’t agree more. Any danger of operating a ship under the sea was however quickly overshadowed by the competency of the sailors tasked with running America’s most stealthy and vital warships.

May God bless the officers and crew – and their families – of USS HAMPTON and the Silent Service.

*David J. Kaplan is the president of a real estate development company in New York and is also the founder and president of the Kaplan Public Service Foundation.*



**January Birthdays**

Linda Dodson	01-05
John Alexander	01-07
James Williams	01-12
Paul Vawter	01-16
Woody Woodmansee	01-20
Jim Tolson	01-21
Joe Testa	01-24
Angelo Naso	01-27
Lynn Trump	01-31



**The Conn**

**Base commander**

Jim Tolson

**Vice Commander**

Tim Barker

**Treasurer**

Jim Koogler

**Secretary**

Woody Cook

**Chaplain**

Sharon Lloyd / Walt Fleak

**COB**

Dave Creekmore

**Membership Chairman**

Jim Tolson

**Storekeeper**

Frank Lloyd

**Web Master**

Cliff Dodson

**Editor**

Jan Creekmore

**Activates Chairmen's**

Tolson's

**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)



## Holland Club



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: (EP) 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 (EP): 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  
 Cecil Johnson: 1961 USS Dogfish SS-350  
 George Petershagen: 1964 USS Remora SS-487

