



VOLUME 5 ISSUE 4

JULY - AUGUST 2003

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY AND FOR THE SUBMARINE VETERANS OF THE SEATTLE BASE.

THE DOLPHIN BROTHERHOOD



all gave some... some gave all

SUBMARINES LOST JULY - AUGUST 483 SHIPMATES LOST AT SEA

USS Runner (SS-275) was declared lost 1-Jul-1943 with the loss of 78 officers and men when it was sunk somewhere between Midway and Hokkaido.

USS Robalo (SS-273) was lost on 26-Jul-1944 with the loss of 84 officers and men when it was sunk 2 miles off west coast of Palawan.

USS Grunion (SS-216) was lost on 1-Aug-1942 with the loss of 70 officers and men when it was sunk near entrance to Kiska (Alaska) Harbor.

USS Harder (SS-257) was lost on 24-Aug-1944 with the loss of 80 officers and men when it was sunk off Caiman Point, Luzon, RPI

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NATIONAL ELECTIONS NOW UNDERWAY

Our annual USSVI national election is now underway to elect our national officers, Region Directors and to vote on modifications to our Constitution and Bylaws. The results of this election will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting in Reno NV on Sept 5th.

We all have a stake in the outcome, so please take the time to vote and return your ballot to Pat Householder, 25003 SE 146th St, Issaquah, WA 98027.

Or, alternatively, you can email your vote to Householderp@comcast.net.

USS BONEFISH ON PATROL IN SEDRO WOOLEY 4th OF JULY PARADE



Twenty some subvets assembled for this parade under clear blue skies and HUGE crowds covering nearly 1 1/2 miles of cheering spectators. You would not think a small town like Sedro Wooley

(Continued on page 8)

- FOXTROT TOUR VIDEO NOW AVAILABLE! SEE PAGE SIX! -

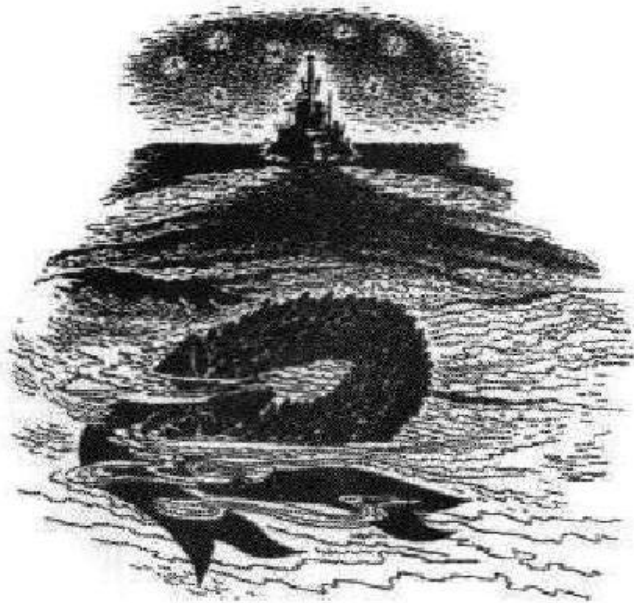
(Continued from SUBMARINES LOST page 1)

USS Flier (SS-250) was lost on 13-Aug-1944 with the loss of 80 officers and men when it was sunk in Balabac Strait near Mantangule Island.

USS Bullhead (SS-332) was lost on 6-Aug-1945 with the loss of 84 officers and men when it was sunk in West end of Lombok Strait.

USS S-39 (SS-144) was lost on 14-Aug-1942 when it was destroyed after grounding on reef south of Rossel Island Louisande Archipelago. All the crew were rescued.

USS Cochino (SS-345) was lost on 26-Aug-1949 when it was sunk in Norwegian Sea after fire, one man from Cochino and 6 men from USS Tusk were lost in the rescue operation.



LOST HARBOR

by Leslie Nelson Jennings

There is a port of no return, where ships

May ride at anchor for a little space

And then, some starless night, the cable slips,

Leaving an eddy at the mooring place . . .

Gulls, veer no longer. Sailor, rest your oar.

No tangled wreckage will be washed ashore.



WORLD WAR II SUBVETS TELL THEIR STORIES

At the June meeting Base Secretary Charlie Ryan moderated a discussion with three WWII subvets, including Fred Ensslin (Qualified 1941 and did war patrols on O-10, Greenling, Sawfish, Snook, S-17 and Cabezon during WW II), Erv Schmidt (Qualified 1943 and did war patrols on Saury & Torsk in WWII) and Robbie Robertson (Qualified 1944 and did war patrols on Tirante). They held the assembled group spellbound as they told living history stories of depth charges and torpedo attacks, hours of routine boredom and moments of terror while on patrol in WW II.

At the conclusion of the discussion Jon Jolly (USS Chopper '45) led the assembled SubVets in singing "Sink them All." Sounded good too!

THE CODE

The French Leader got a coded message from Bush Administration. It read:

S370HSSV-0773H

The French were stumped and sent for the French Information Agency. The FIA was stumped too, so it went to the Russians.

The Russians couldn't solve it either, so they asked the Germans.

The Germans, having received this same message from the Americans during W.W.II, suggested turning it upside down ...



For the Nuc's in our ranks... If you DBF'rs don't know, don't ask... They'd have to kill you after they told you...

SUBVETTES ESTABLISHED!

By John Peters, National Commander

It is my pleasure to report that a Charter has been signed for the Ladies Auxiliary of USSVI. They chose "SubVettes" for a name.

The first SubVettes National President is Ella Blado, the wife of our D4 Commander Dennis Blado.

All USSVI Bases have the option of 'adopting' a Subvettes Ladies Auxiallary chapter.

The Ladies Auxiliary is a home for all the Wives, Widows, Mothers, Daughters and sisters, (16 years and over) of our USSVI membership.

As an Auxiliary, the details of their operation will be left to their leadership. Please pass the word to all the ladies at Base meetings, in Newsletters, etc., so they may join if they wish.

I expect everyone attending the Ladies Luncheon in Reno will have the opportunity to chat with Ella and find out more, or you can contact Ella at bladod4west@bsc.net or 850-689-6635.

A Ladies Auxiliary has been authorized in the USSVI C&B for a long time, I'm glad it is finally a reality.

WELL DONE!

A "FOXTROT" JULY 4th CELEBRATION



Robbie & Terry Robertson

About 40 members and guests enjoyed a 'steel beach' barbe-que of hamburgers, hotdogs, potato salad, deviled eggs, chips and various other edible delights on the Foxtrot and were then treated to a spectacular display of fireworks from some of the finest 'seats' in the City. The



Bob Vanderway, Peter Berkebile & Ritchie Lanzner digging in.

next "Foxtrot" event is the Sept 20th 'Toll the Boats' service & Holland Club induction.

COLD WAR PATCH

A new patch from the Base Storekeeper. To order contact Bill "Goose" Giese at 425 355-5990 or giese@gte.net. \$ 7.50 at the meeting or \$ 8.50 mailed. The patch dates represent the first cold war patrol (1946) to the destruction of the Berlin Wall (1989).



Left on the Bridge During a Dive

by Mike Henry, QM3(SS)

“When I was on the USS Raton (AGSS 270) in 1969, we were overseas doing sea ops with the Korean Navy. I was the duty QM, so it was my job to open the Conning Tower hatch and be the first man up when we surfaced. A young lieutenant junior grade, "Mr. Take Her Down", was the OOD.

We surfaced at full speed into the seas. Mr. *Take* yells "Quartermaster up" and I cracked the hatch and went to the bridge, which was about half way from the top of the sail on the 'Rat'. A wave caught the bow and the ship's momentum started the ship going back down! By this time about 3 feet of water was on the bridge and the ship was taking on water



(Continued on page 5)

JUNE MEETING REPORT



Forty members and guests were in attendance. Phil Ward led the Pledge of Allegiance and Erv Schmidt led us in prayer.

Seven submarines and 374 souls were lost in June. Base Treasurer Jim Harper) reported our Base financial balance as \$ 5,955.26 and Peter McCafferty reports 132 members currently in Seattle Base.

Members reported on the Binnacle list included John Fankhouser, Don Gentry and Ted Taylor

Base Secretary Charlie Ryan moderated a Q&A with three SVWWII that was very well done. (See story on page two)

Jr Vice Cdr Peter McCafferty purchased an engraved brick on behalf of Seattle Base to honor the USS Bonefish and her lost crew at Avery Point Lighthouse in Groton, CT The Light House was in need of extensive repairs. This light-house is a landmark at Groton, and as any bubblehead who has ever sailed in or out of the Sub Base there knows, for many years it has been instrumental in safely guiding

(Continued on page 5)

2003 Seattle Base Officers and Chairs

Commander	Pat Householder	425-392-0440
Sr Vice Cdr	Bob Opple	425-747-1247
Jr Vice Cdr	Peter McCafferty	206 784-8920
Treasurer	Jim Harper	425 357-6485
Secretary	Charlie Ryan	206 525-0935
Editor	Don Gentry	425 227-5410
Storekeeper	Bill Giese	425-355-5990
Ceremonies	Don Masoero	253-941-4133
Chaplain	Mike Bennett	206 767-1934
BASE COB	Ted Taylor	425 228-3764
Webmaster & POC	Ric Hedman	rddesign @rddesigns.com
WA Vet Legislative Council Rep	Don Smith	360-273-9416
FOXTROT COB	Dave Goodson	425 823-3507

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

Unless otherwise specified, all meetings are conducted at:

Lake Washington VFW Post 2995
4330 148th Ave NE
Redmond, WA 98052
Wednesdays 6:30 to 10:00 PM

Date	Topic
July 16, 2003 - Wed	Early Missile Subs Video
August 20, 2003 - Wed	TBD
September 1-5th	Combined USSVI-SVWWII Annual Convention in Reno, NV.
September 20, 2003 (Saturday event)	Tolling the Boats Ceremony at Foxtrot Sub
October 15, 2003 - Wed	TBD
Nov 19, 2003 - Wed	TBD
Dec Christmas Luncheon W/SVWWII	Time & Date to be determined.

(Continued JUNE MEETING from page 4)

Submarines coming home to Groton The "Bonefish" brick will be engraved "from the USSVI Seattle Base" and will be grouped with similar bricks representing all the lost submarines.

Foxtrot COB Dave Goodson reports the work parties on the Submarine are largely done until after the tourist season.

8x10 photos of the Foxtrot were handed out to all docents in attendance in appreciation of their work this past year. We continue to take in around \$50.00 per week for the Subvets Charitable Foundation.

Base Storekeeper Bill Giese reports a new "Cold War" patch is available (see picture on Page 5) Base item sales are increasing at the Foxtrot Store due to the start of Tourist Season. The latest check for Foxtrot sales received was for approx \$ 800.00 Also available is a limited supply of SVWWII 2004 calendars.

Ceremonies Chair Don Masoero reported on the Tahoma National Cemetery Project: The project is proceeding on schedule and we should have a fall installation of the stone and plaque. The four participating Bases are Bremerton, Seattle, South Sound, & Yakima Bases.

Plans are underway for a *Tolling the Boats* ceremony and *Holland Club* induction at the Foxtrot to be held on Saturday, Sept 20. Bob Oppler is assisting Don in this project.

South Sound Base invites all Seattle Base members to join with them for a Subvet picnic at Brown's Point Lighthouse Park (North side of Commencement bay) on Aug 24th Noon to 4 PM. SSB will provide hot dogs, burgers and chips. Anyone else can bring a pot luck dish, salad or dessert.

SSB is also coordinating a night out to a Rainiers Baseball game in Tacoma. Probably \$10.00 per person

and will cover entry and tailgate food 'n drinks. the date is still open but will probably be last week of July or 1st week of August. (Latest info suggests Aug 1st.) Contact John Mansfield for more current information.

At the close of the meeting, Robbie Robertson won the 50-50 raffle. Call him "Lucky" 'cause he just keeps

(Continued LEFT ON THE BRIDGE from page 4)

through the hatch, so the helmsman shut the hatch - with

me still on the bridge. Good call by the helmsman, because otherwise the ship was going down for the last time.

The ship was still going down, so I started climbing the outside ladder-rails on the sail. Another wave came over the ship, and I was under water for a moment while on my way to the top of the sail. I had to decide whether or not to let go, and decided to hold on because: (1) the ship's twin screws tended to suck everything into them; and (2) the fact that we seldom found the milk cans we threw overboard during man-overboard drills.

I can still remember being on top of the sail, at sea level, with only about a foot of the sail being visible - the rest of the boat was under water. The guys in the control

room later told me they were "blowing everything but the old man" trying to surface the boat.

When they finally surfaced, I was still on top of the sail. I climbed down through the ladder inside of the sail. Mr. Take tried to blame the helmsman for not forwarding his "ahead 1/3" order to the maneuvering room (You're only supposed to surface at 1/3 speed), but my log verified that he never gave that order.

The old man believed my story, especially when he noticed that my boondockers (remember those boots?) were sucked off when I was climbing the sail - holding on like an underwater flag."

USN Submarine Rating Pins
 approximately 1" in size with clasp.

USSVI Seattle Base
 \$6.50 at meeting or \$ 7.00 mailed.
 Bill Giese SK: Email giese@gte.net

BINNACLE LIST REPORT

DON GENTRY: After experiencing some angina on a bike ride in June, Don had a cardiac evaluation and treadmill test, the results being orders for a immediate SHIPALT in the Yards on July 3rd. Turns out this 48 yr old 'kid' had 6 blockages in his cardiac arteries.

Thoughts immediately turned to a certain Canadian with Sawzall experience, but it turns out his yard overhaul was done at Swedish Medical Center Providence Campus 500 - 17th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98124 where Don is recouping and bemoaning the destruction of his pretty Nuke MM chest. (His description, not mine!!!)

Drop Don a card or call 206 320-2444 to connect to his room.

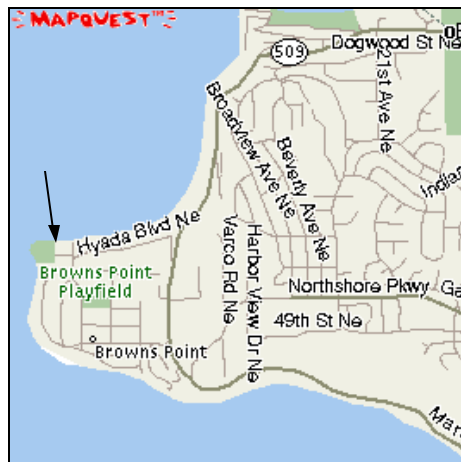
YOU'RE INVITED!

SOUTH SOUND BASE invites all Seattle Base members to join with them for a Subvet picnic at Brown's Point Lighthouse Park on Aug 24th Noon to 4 PM.



South Sound Base will provide hot dogs, burgers and chips.

Anyone else can bring a pot luck dish, salad or dessert.



bay as shown on the map.

For additional information, please contact South Sound Base Commander John Mansfield at email ss377Bunkmates@aol.com or call 253-922-7551

Brown's Point Lighthouse Park is located on the North side of Commencement

FOXTROT TOUR VIDEO NOW AVAILABLE

For some time Sr Vice Cdr Bob Op-ple has been working with UW Filmmaker John Balzny in the production of a commercially salable 30 minute VHS



guided tour of the Foxtrot that the tourists can purchase and take home with them.

It's an informative and entertaining walk through the boat featuring Bob at his loquacious best, ably assisted by his loyal sidekick, 'Harley D', the *Snorkle Schnauzer*.

The tourists always love Bob's Sunday guided tours and he always puts in a good pitch for USSVI and our Charitable Foundation.

Foxtrot Docents and staff get recognition by name and pictures in the production as well while the credits roll at the end.

You'll love the music overlay too. Ok, so it was the Soviet National Anthem... It's still a stirring piece of music and has been recycled to become the Russian National Anthem now.

It's completed and available for purchase at the Foxtrot store or through Bill Giese, Base Storekeeper. (Email giese@gte.net or call him at 425 -355-5990)

At the Foxtrot store the video is available for \$ 14.95 ea. HOWEVER Seattle Base members (through Bill Giese, the Storekeeper) can order the video for \$ 9.95. Net proceeds from the sales of these videos will flow into our Base Treasury.

Thanks, Bob. You did good!

COMMANDERS CORNER

While Don Gentry is recouping I took on the temporary editorship of the DOLPHIN BROTHERHOOD, so the entire issue is in a sense my column. So go about your reading... There's nothing to see here.. (Grin) Fraternally: Pat

SUBVET RENO CONVENTION

SEPT 1ST TO 5TH

IT'S NOT TOO LATE BUT YOU NEED TO ACT NOW!

Don't miss this first and last opportunity to mix and mingle in a joint convention with the US Submarine Veterans of World War II.

THE RENO HILTON IS HOST HOTEL FOR THE 2003 JOINT USSVI - USSV-WWII SUB VETS CONVENTION.

The Host Corvina Base reports there are approximately 45 boat reunions scheduled as well, which is probably a record or close to it.

For our convenience, all of the convention functions (with the exception of the golf outing) will be held at the host hotel.

ROOM RESERVATIONS can be made by calling 1-800-648-5080. Be sure to give the reservations clerk our Group Code **USSUB**. This will insure that you get the convention room rate of \$77.00 plus a (current) room tax of 12% per night.

IF they are sold out, a contract has also been signed with Airport Plaza Hotel, less than a mile away. The overflow room rate is \$72.00 + tax (currently 12%) per night.

You can contact them at (775) 348-6370.

Be sure to mention our group code, **USSUB** to get the special room rate. An hourly free shuttle will be available from the Airport Plaza hotel.

AMERICAN AIRLINES is offering a 10% discount on the applicable fares on domestic flights to Reno, for the dates of August 27, 2003 through September 9, 2003. You or your travel agent may call American Airlines Meetings Services Desk at 1-800-433-1790 between the hours of 7AM and 12AM Central Time, and reference the assigned I.D. Code AO383AA, to obtain the discounted fare. Your flight must be booked and ticketed 30 days in advance of the convention to take advantage of this offer.

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES is offering a 10% discount on most of its already low fares for air travel to and from the convention. You or your travel agent may call Southwest Airlines Group and Meetings Reservations at 1-800-433-5368 and reference the assigned I.D. Code J5566. Reservation agents are available 7AM - 8PM Monday - Friday, or 8:30AM - 5:30PM Saturday & Sunday, Central Time. You must make your reservations five or more days prior to travel to take advantage of this offer.

ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR is offering an attractive convention discount to SubVets. You or your travel agent may call 1-877-551-4971 and reference the assigned I.D. CODE 54C2451

RV'ers: RV parking and information can be obtained from Lon Schmidt at: 2998 Sierrama Ct., Shingle Springs, CA 95682-8806 or e-mail him at: ss402Lon@cwnet.com.

TOURS

RENO CITY TOUR & THE NATIONAL AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2003 1 PM - 5 PM - \$33.00 per person (minimum 15 people)

**Includes transportation, guided tour, admission to the National Automobile Museum*

CARSON CITY & VIRGINIA CITY WITH LUNCH: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2003; 10 AM - 4 PM - \$57.00 PER PERSON (minimum 30 people)

Includes transportation, guided tour, admission to the Nevada State Museum, V & T Railroad ride & Lunch

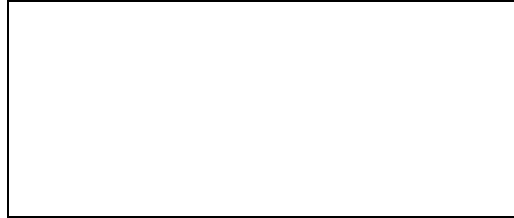
FALLON NAVAL AIR STATION & TOP GUN: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2003; 8 AM - 3 PM - \$47.00 PER PERSON (maximum 200 people)

Includes transportation, guided tour, admission to the Fallon Naval Air Station, tour of TOPGUN & lunch

Application forms are available on-line at <http://ussvi.org/reno/reno-3.doc> or in your American Submariner Magazine, Issue 2003-1, Pg 37.



USSVI Seattle Base
 c/o Patrick Householder
 25003 SE 146th St
 Issaquah, WA 98027



"No matter where you travel, when you meet a guy who's been...
 There's an instant kind of friendship 'cause we're brothers of the 'phin."
 — Robert Reed, G.W. Carver (SSBN-656)

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The Dolphin Brotherhood

(Continued from Sedro Wooley Parade, page 1)

could have such a large parade, but they pull it off BIG TIME! Many buttons were handed out and following most of our SVWWII & USSVI group assembled at the Cranberry Tree restaurant in Mt. Vernon.

John Baker pulled the float while Fred Ensslin manned the crowd pleasing klaxon diving alarm and put it to good use while underway. Midway through the parade Erv Schmidt joined in, having just come from a Pearl Harbor Survivors



Gene Posel with flag,
 Bob Morris & Pat
 Householder with



Dick Moe and Fred Ensslin man-
 ning the rails on the Bonefish



The "Cranberry Tree for lunch" bunch... (Front) Fred & Josie Ensslin, (Middle) Debbie & Pat Householder, Lem Riddell, Robbie & Terry Robertson, (Standing) John & Barbara Baker, Erv & June Schmidt, Bob Morris, Charlie Ryan, Karl Krompholz. Some of the other parade participants that could not make the lunch included Lee Wise, Ralph Sterley, Dick Moe, Gene Posel and Jim Corkill.

Following lunch we all went our separate ways but many reassembled at the Foxtrot that evening for a steel beach bar-be-que and the best view ever for the fireworks show.