

The Beacon

Snug Harbor Base's Newsletter

Website: "<http://www.decklog.com/snugharbor>"



Issue #39

October 2004



The creed of the USSVI is: "To perpetuate the memory of our departed shipmates who gave their lives in 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 Government".

NEW MEMBERS: Since the last newsletter, the following Shipmates have joined Snug Harbor. We would like to give them a big "Welcome Aboard". We now have 189 Regular Members, 27 Associate Members, 133 Life Members and 48 Holland Club Members.

Raymond Strecker – Melbourne, FL.
USS Sea Devil (SS-400) 1951

Leo Carter – Cocoa Beach, FL.
USS Archerfish (SS-311) 1945

John McAbee – Rockledge, FL.
USS Darter (SS-576) 1961

John Griesbaum - Titusville, FL.
USS Francis Scott Key (SSBN-657) 1967



ETERNAL PATROL: The following submarines were lost during September - October and are still on "ETERNAL PATROL"

"Sailors, Rest Your Oars"

Sept. 9, 1943 USS Grayling (SS-209)
Sept. 28, 1943 USS Cisco (SS-290)

Oct. 3, 1944 USS Seawolf (SS-197)
Oct. 7, 1943 USS S-44 (SS-155)
Oct. 11, 1943 USS Wahoo (SS-238)
Oct. 12, 1943 USS Dorado (SS-248)
Oct. 17, 1944 USS Escolar (SS-294)
Oct. 24, 1944 USS Tang (SS-306)
Oct. 24, 1944 USS Shark II (SS-314)
Oct. 24, 1944 USS Darter (SS-227)

BASE OFFICERS: The following are the Base Officers that serve you for the year 2004.

Base Commander – **Gil Shaddock**
Vice Commander – **Ray Goodwin**
Treasurer – **Ray Coons**
Secretary/Veteran's Affairs – **Shawn Brown**

ASSIGNED OFFICERS: Assigned by the Base Commander.

Chaplain/Base Historian – **Bob Chasse**
COB/Ways and Means – **Ray Goodwin**
Storekeeper – **Pat Pecorelli, assisted by Larry Hall**
The Beacon Writers/Editors – **Gil Shaddock, Shawn Brown**
Snug Harbor Web – **Tim VeArd, Gil Shaddock**



From all of us to all of you
Have a Very Merry Christmas

United States Submarine Veterans Inc.
Snug Harbor Base
125 Elm Ave.
Satellite Beach, Fl. 32937-3370



BASE COMMANDER'S CORNER

By Gil Shaddock

ETERNAL PATROL: First, let me express my sincere condolences to Bill Thomas's family on his going on "Eternal Patrol". It was a real shock to find out that he had passed away. Also, to Associate Member John Price's family. Also to the family of Charles Lasch "SAILORS, REST YOUR OARS".

HURRICANE THOUGHTS: I hope that all of you made it through the hurricanes with minimal damage, as I did. I apologize for having to cancel the September meeting, but I think everybody had plenty to do just trying to recover from Frances.

NATIONAL VOTING: I would like to say "Thank You" to those of you who took the time to vote, either "online" or by paper ballot. We had 88 members out of 189 that voted which is 47% of our Base. That is much better than in previous years. Maybe next year will be even better.

TIME FOR DUES AND INCREASES: It is now time to start renewing your dues for 2005. The dues renewal period is 1 October - 31 December 2004. I'm sure you all are aware of the dues increase that will go into effect on 1 January 2005. On 1 January 2005 the National dues for Regular members increases from \$10 per year to \$20 per year (Base dues remain at \$10), so it will cost you \$30 to renew as a Regular member for 2005. You can renew your National dues for 3 years for \$55 or for 5 years for \$90. If you are NOT a Life Member, let me encourage you to seriously consider becoming a Life Member NOW as the Life Member fees take a drastic increase on 1 January 2005. They will be:

Age Range	New Rate	Old Rate
45 and younger	\$500.00	\$250.00
46 - 55 years.	\$400.00	\$150.00
56 - 65 years.	\$300.00	\$100.00
66 - 75 years.	\$200.00	\$50.00
76 and older	\$100.00	\$50.00

The dues for "Associate Members" are the same as for "Regular" members, \$30 for 2005. Send dues to Ray Coons at 2316 Bent Pine Dr., Melbourne, FL 32904-9144.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES: If you haven't registered yet for the Annual Memorial Service at the Submarine Base at King's Bay

or the Submariner's Christmas party in Mobile, AL., let me encourage you to do so ASAP. Both of these functions are well worth the cost of attending. The NOTU Christmas party will be on 10 December at the Patrick AFB NCO Club and the Alabama Submariner's Christmas will be 9-11 December in Mobile, AL.

BASE ELECTIONS: It is time to elect your Base Officers to serve for the year 2005. The Offices of Base Commander, Vice Commander, Secretary and Treasurer are the offices to be voted on. At the October meeting, I will appoint a nominating committee, to report back at the November meeting, the names of the candidates for each office. We will vote on the candidates at the November meeting. The newly elected officers will take their "Oath of Office" at the December meeting and will take their new positions on 1 January. 2005.

BASE MEETINGS: I received this E-mail from one of our members, and I quote "You know, there are several members who live in North Brevard who just can't get to the meetings in South Brevard each month. Some are thinking of just keeping membership in the national realm. They figure they don't go to the meetings because of distance. They don't benefit from local membership, so why pay the dues for nothing? Would you consider alternating meetings between north and south or even moving the meeting site further north to a central location?" I would like to respond to this so that ALL of our members will know where we are now holding our meetings. First off, I'm not sure what they mean when they say they can't get to the meetings in South Brevard. It sounds to me like they may think that we are still meeting in Sebastian. We have been meeting at the VFW Post on Dairy Rd. in Melbourne for over a year, which has been posted on our website, in our newsletters and in the Florida Today newspaper. I do NOT consider Melbourne to be in South Brevard. At our meeting on October 2nd we had members from Ft. Pierce, Pt. St. Lucie and Haines City attending the meeting (that's about 75-100 miles for them). I also don't understand what they mean by North Brevard. I consider Titusville to be in North Brevard and NOT Cocoa, Rockledge or Merritt Island. I checked our roster and we only have 5 members that live in Titusville and one of them NEVER misses a meeting. The statement "They don't benefit from local membership, so why pay the dues for nothing?" sort of boggles my mind also. EVERY member receives the monthly newsletter and at least 2 FREE picnics each year. These are paid for with your \$10 per year Base dues. I would also like to point out that the VFW allows us to use their facilities for FREE plus bring in our own beer and soda. If one of the members that lives in "North" Brevard, that can't make it to the meetings in "South" Brevard can do the "leg work" and find a place that will allow us to use it for FREE and also bring in our own beer and soda, I will gladly consider moving the meetings. I have NEVER received any communications from ANY of the members that can't make it to the meetings because of the distance involved. It sort of "ruffles my feathers" to get it "second hand" from another member. As the saying goes, "You can please some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can't please all of the people all of the time". The office of Base Commander is now open for nominations for the coming year if anyone would like to throw their hat in the ring.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

By Shawn Brown ETCS(SS) Retired



ET overcoming the dark side



Base minutes for 7 Aug 2004:

ADOPT-A-ROAD PROGRAM: A representative from the Adopt-A-Road program came to the meeting to indoctrinate the members on the “dos” and “don’ts” during cleanup. Safety is paramount. Vest will be issued along with the necessary tools. Teams of two will be used, one to clean up and the other to look out for dangers, such as snakes. Trash will be stacked by the Adopt-A-Road sign. It will get very hot during the cleanup, drink plenty of water. Open fields are not to be cleaned up and no more than 10 feet away from the sidewalk. If an illegal dumping of trash is noticed, report it to the Adopt-A-Road office. T-shirts will be available from Edsel Wright (Snug Harbors POC) when cleanup is completed. (We are now trained to do road cleanup).

NATIONAL VOTING: Voting is progressing well. Most of the members that registered to vote online have completed there voting. This appears to have been a successful way to get more members to vote. More information to follow next month.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS: The new plastic membership cards are now available for distribution. These cards are for “Regular” members only. Life members have already received a card from national with their name and number. These cards are valid, when national dues are paid, for the calendar year 2005. When it is time for national dues for calendar year 2006, a sticker will be available with the 2006 year printed on it so that it can be attached to the plastic card. If you are a “Regular” member, you can pick up your card from Ray Coons. “Associate” members that are not life members also get a plastic card.

REGULAR MEMBER DUES: As it has been pointed out in previous newsletters, national dues for “Regular” members is raising from \$10 per year to \$20. National office has offered “Regular” members the ability to pay for more years in advance and get a savings while doing it. If a member wishes to pay for three years, instead of the \$20 per year or \$60 it will cost \$55. Five years cost \$90. This also applies to “Associate” members that are not life members.

NOVEMBER MEETING DATE MOVED: Because the Kings Bay Memorial is being held from 3-6 November, the same time that our normal meeting would be held, the meeting is being moved to 13 November.

TWO CHRISTMAS PARTIES: The NOTU and the Mobile Alabama Christmas parties are being held the same weekend, 10 December. For those that are not going to Mobile, we hope to see you at the NOTU party which is being held at the NCO club just outside of the Patrick AFB gate on A1A.

BOOK DRIVE: The book drive that Dan Weiss has been sponsoring is still on-going. Anyone wanting to donate books for K-6th grade children can bring them to any Snug Harbor meeting and Dan will gladly collect them.

The September meeting was cancelled due to Hurricane Frances. Hurricanes Charley and Jeane will also be remembered.

Base minutes for 2 October 2004:

KEEP BREVARD BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM: The Adopt-A-Road program is actually the “Keep Brevard Beautiful” program. The signs that identify Snug Harbor USSVI SUBVETs as the cleanup group has been posted. Now, all that is needed is a scheduled date so that we can do the cleanup. After the last three storms, it is unknown what we will find out there (if you see my fence, please return it – I live in Port St. Johns).

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IT'S DUES TIME: It's time to renew our dues for both the base and national. For Life members, it is only \$10 for renewal, this goes to the base. For all other members, it will be \$30, \$20 for national renewal and \$10 goes to the base. The \$30 renewal fee will be true unless you chose to pay for more years in advance (See the previous months Secretary Report). The drive for dues will be from October until December 2004. From January to March, if the dues have not been paid, then a member is designated as delinquent but is not dropped from the national roles. After March, members that have not paid dues will be dropped by national. Let's try to get this drive done early. To pay your dues, see Ray Coons at any Snug Harbor meeting or you can send your dues to Ray or Gil Shaddock in the mail.

ELECTION VOTING RESULTS: 88 members voted this year (55%) as compared with last years of (36%). Excellent progress. Maybe next year we can beat the 55%.

SNUG HARBOR EXPENDITURES: The first three expenditures were motioned, seconded and then voted on by the meeting members. The rest are normal yearly expenditures:

- Caring and Sharing program (Thanksgiving Dinners): \$110
- NOTU Sailors Christmas donation: \$100
- Cavalla Submarine Memorial: \$100
- VFW donation for use of facilities: \$50
- American Submariner Magazine subscription for NOTU: \$25

SECRETARY'S REPORT CONTINUES NEXT PAGE

SECRETARY'S REPORT CONTINUES

SNUG HARBOR OFFICER ELECTIONS: A Nomination Committee was appointed at this meeting to solicit possible candidates for next year's officer posts. The Commander, Vice Commander, Treasurer and Secretary are the elected officers. Anyone having an interest in performing one of these jobs needs to contact Bill Irvine or Mike Ferrell to submit their names. The Nomination Committee will present the result at the November meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT COMPLETED

A SILENT WARRIOR'S FINAL DAY:

By Chris Barron, Bremerton Sun, 21 Oct 04

On a dark and gloomy rain-filled day, a shroud of secrecy permeated the air on the Bremerton waterfront.

It was the perfect setting for the final day in the top-secret career of the Bangor-based USS Parche, one of the world's most prolific spy submarines.

By the time its life ended Tuesday in a decommissioning ceremony at the Bremerton naval base, the Parche was the most highly decorated ship in Navy history - even though most Americans have never heard of it.

Commissioned in 1974, the Parche spent 30 years and 19 deployments as America's top espionage sub, reportedly tapping the undersea military communication lines of the Soviet Union during the Cold War, plucking lost Soviet weaponry from the ocean floor and gathering intelligence on other enemies afterward.

The Parche (pronounced PAR-chee) was officially designated by the Navy as a "research and development" submarine. And it did plenty of that, testing new sonar and undersea warfare technologies.

But its highly classified missions, none of which have ever been officially confirmed, are the most intriguing aspect of its history. Many of those missions were deemed to be of "vital importance to U.S. national security," earning the submarine an unprecedented nine Presidential Unit Citations. The vast majority of ships never receive even one.

For being the most decorated ship ever, shouldn't more people be made aware of what it accomplished?

"Those that need to know, know," said a matter-of-fact Rear Adm. Ben Wachendorf, who commanded the Parche from 1988 to 1993.

Wachendorf, now U.S. defense attache in Moscow, traveled from Russia to be at Tuesday's ceremony.

"I wouldn't have missed it for anything," he said. "It means a lot to be able to say goodbye to an old friend."

In fact, all but one of the Parche's nine former commanders were present at the Parche's decommissioning. In addition, about 130 former crew members, most belonging to the USS Parche Association, were on hand to witness the sub's inactivation.

Those who returned to see their sub one last time said it was not only the camaraderie of submarine life that made Parche special, but also the exotic and extremely challenging missions it completed, which often involved excruciatingly long periods spent submerged with dwindling food and supplies.

"It's the end of the life cycle," said Manchester resident Will Longman, chairman of the Parche Association. "It's very meaningful. The camaraderie does not go away. And the uniqueness of Parche imparts its own special camaraderie."

The Parche also was the last of the Navy's 37 Sturgeon-class fast attack subs to be deactivated - though it barely resembled any of the other ships of that class.

That's because its hull was extended by 100 feet to accommodate extensive classified modifications in a four-year stay at Mare Island Naval Shipyard near San Francisco in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

In 1994, the Parche and its crew of 190 moved from Mare Island to Bangor. It had already earned six Presidential Unit Citations by that time and earned another three after its transfer to Bangor, including a ninth for its final deployment that ended in late September.

The Parche's final resume also included 13 Navy Expeditionary Medals and 10 Navy Unit Commendations - all unprecedented numbers.

"Parche has had a career unmatched in the annals of submarine history," said Rear Adm. Paul Sullivan, commander of the Pacific Fleet submarine force "Parche has gathered enough citations that are just truly remarkable ... based on her superb performance in critical national tasking.

"She now ranks among the most legendary vessels to ever have sailed under our flag."

Sullivan compared the Parche's storied past to other historic Navy vessels, such as USS Constitution, USS Monitor, USS Missouri and USS Nautilus.

"And now there is Parche," he said.

The ship figured prominently in "Blind Man's Bluff: The Untold Story of American Submarine Espionage," a nonfiction book published in the 1990s, which described how it spent its Cold War days spying on the Soviet Union.

It's also been reported the sub, with a claw-like device, was able to pick up lost Soviet missiles or bombs from the sea floor. Later, it reportedly deployed unmanned drones to complete many of the espionage tactics.

Following the Cold War, the Parche continued its highly classified missions, with many observers citing an even higher sense of secrecy. It's said the Parche spent plenty of time in the Persian Gulf, gleaning intelligence on Iraq and Iran, and traveled through the Western Pacific keeping tabs on China and North Korea.

Capt. Richard Charles, the Parche's first commander, traveled from Mobile, Ala., for Tuesday's ceremony. He took command while the sub was being built and went on its first deployment, a five-month journey in the Mediterranean Sea. After that, the sub transferred to the West Coast and began its spy missions a few years later.

"Those guys in the Pacific had all the fun," Charles joked. "I just built it.

"It's always sad to see a ship retire, but after a while, they are like you and me; they wear out."

Ironically, the name of the Parche's last at-sea commander, Capt. Charles Richard, was a mirror image of the sub's first. Richard was relieved in a change-of-command ceremony Tuesday after leading the Parche on two post-September 11th deployments, including one that lasted 122 days in 2002.

"Being commander of this ship was an extraordinary experience and I was fortunate to be given the experience," he said. "I hope that each man who has served aboard this ship will look back and swell with pride knowing that he answered his country's call." Following the ceremony, the Parche, probably one of the least known subs to the general public because of its highly classified missions, silently shifted over to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. There, it will be torn apart and recycled over the next few years. And it's probably the first time in the Parche's history that its whereabouts will be known.

"That just proves our success that nobody knows what we do," said Bremerton resident Curt Mathews, who retired off the Parche last year. "It's kind of fun. People say, 'The Parche? I never heard of it?' Well, that's good.

"And we like it that way and that's why we were successful in all of our missions."

THANKSGIVING: As we have for the past 3 years SUBVETS Groton Base is hosting a Thanksgiving Dinner where we will again feed area single sailors, and police officers as well as Single SUBVETS/SUBVETS WWII for Thanksgiving. We also provide meals to local SUBVETS who are house stricken with no ability to get out. Last years efforts fed well over 500 people. This is an enormous undertaking, done strictly with donations from the Groton Base Membership, the local community, **and the support of USSVI.** Many of you, and your members have made gracious donations in the past in support of this dinner, and I expect that to continue. Additionally, any excess money is divided equally between the SUBASE Caring and Sharing Program, and USSV Charitable Foundation's Caring and Sharing Program. Both of these programs help married Sailors who may not have enough for a holiday meal in purchasing a complete holiday meal for Thanksgiving. The SUBASE program helps the local Sailors and their families, and the SU Donations may be made by mail. Checks should be written to SUBVETS and marked for the Thanksgiving Fund, and mailed to:
U.S. SUBVETS
Attn: Thanksgiving Fund
40 School Street
Groton, CT 06340
Thanks in advance for your support, and many thanks to all who have already made donations. Your support will help make for a very Happy Holiday Season for many Sailors and their families.

NATIOAL OFFICERS: Congratulations to the newly elected national officers.
The entire lineup is:
National Commander: Tom Conlon
Senior Vice Commander: Jim Foote
Junior Vice Commander: Pat Householder
National Secretary: Gordon Clark
National Treasurer: Jon Jaques

Eastern Regional Director: George Boyle
Central Regional Director: Art Randall
Western Regional Director: Dave Harnish

CANADIAN SUBMARINE TRAGEDY: As previously posted Groton Base is coordinating fund Raising to assist the Submarine Association of Canada's efforts in raising money to assist LT. Chris Saunders family. As indicated in Buster's email a trust fund has been set up for his children. Any one wanting to make donations in any amount should write the checks/money orders to U.S. SUBVETS, and mail them to U.S. SUBVETS
Attn: Canadian Submarine Fund
40 School Street
Groton, CT 06340

SAUNDERS, LT(N) Christopher Edward - 32, Halifax, lost his life while serving his country aboard HMCS Chicoutimi on October 6, 2004. Born in Saint John, N.B., on April 7, 1972, he was the only son of Hugh Saunders, Gondola Point, N.B., and Deborah (Hughes) Sullivan, Summerville, N.B. He attended KVHS and the Collège militaire royal de Saint Jean, Québec, in the R.O.T.P. program before being stationed to C.F.B. Halifax, Stadacona. Chris pursued his military career with great enthusiasm and was particularly proud to become a submariner. He was an avid biker and enjoyed golf, camping and woodworking. Most of all, Chris loved his sons and was so proud of watching them grow. He will be missed more than words can say. Besides his parents, he leaves his beloved wife, Gwendolyn (Patterson) Saunders; sons, Benjamin, age two and Luke, seven weeks old; sister, Melissa Saunders, Calgary; stepmother, Trish Saunders, Gondola Point, N.B.; stepfather, Stewart Sullivan, Summerville, N.B.; grandmother, Dorothy O'Neil, Saint John, N.B.; two stepbrothers and one stepsister; several aunts, uncles and cousins. He was predeceased by grandparents, Stanford and Frances Saunders. Visitation will be held 2-4 p.m. Tuesday, October 12, in T.K. Barnard Funeral Home, 3460 Dutch Village Rd., Halifax. Funeral service will be 11 a.m. Wednesday, October 13, in St. Andrews United Church, Halifax. Private family burial will be at a later time. Donations in memory may be made to the Trust Fund for Ben and Luke at any Bank of Montreal.

2004 SUBVETS WWII MEMORIAL SERVICE:
3 - 6 NOVEMBER 2004
Points of contact:

John Crouse - Manager St. Marys Submarine Museum
912-882-2782- submus@tds.net
Sharon Carson - Gift Shop St. Marys Submarine Museum
912-882-2782 - gift shop@tds.net
Master Chief John Bradley - CMC SUBASE
912-573-4704- bradlevierm@SUBASEkb.navv.mil
TVQ SUBASE (OLD BOQ) Room Reservations
912-573-8486 - brownbr@SUBASEkb.navv.mil
Cumberland Island Inn & Suites Reservations
800-768-6250 \-v\ -vw.cumberlandislandinn.com
(Brand New) SUBASE RV Park Eagle Hammock
912-573-4125
See the last newsletter for more information.

HOLLAND CLUB CEREMONY: This years HOLLAND CLUB Ceremony for Groton Base will be held on Saturday 13 November. The Ceremony will be held at Dealey Center on SUBASE commencing at 9:00 am. We will be inducting 44 members into the prestigious HOLLAND CLUB. All are invited to attend this ceremony. Following the ceremony there will be a breakfast at the SUBASE Galley the breakfast is \$5.00 each. Later at noon there will be a no-host social for all attendees and guests starting at noon. I would like to offer an invitation to all members of U.S. SUBVETS who would like to attend. Those desiring to attend the Ceremony and Breakfast need to be listed and paid in advance so that we may provide a listing of attendees to SUBASE Security, and pay the galley in advance for those attending. The cut-off date for registering for this is 31 Oct 2004. This is an absolute cut-off date. No exceptions.

To comply with SUBASE Security requirements the following information is required for all attendees: Full name, Date of Birth, Citizenship. Each attendee must list each of their guests, and each individual must have a picture id with them.

Parking will be at the Submarine Force Library and Museum and the parking lot will be open commencing 8:00 am on the 13th, and transportation will be provided.

USS RAZORBACK TOURS: North Little Rock Mayor Patrick H. Hays, AIMM and the USSVI Razorback Base are pleased to announce a five day window of opportunity to tour the USS Razorback prior to final closing and refurbishment. After this series of tour dates, the sub will be locked down until around the first of April when the Museum is expected to open in its temporary configuration. The tours will take place on Tuesday, November 16 through Friday,



November 19 from 12 noon to 5 PM and then on Saturday the 20th of November from 10:00 AM until 6 PM.

Tour prices will be \$10.00 per adult, children 13-17 \$5.00 and children 5-12 free with a paid adult admission. Children under 6 are not allowed on the tour. There will be a gift shop with Maritime Museum items for sale.

For more information and for times when tickets will be available please call Tina Worrell, of North Little Rock Parks and Recreation at 501-791-8543. It is strongly suggested you make arrangements to get

early tickets. Women should not wear dresses or high heels on the tour. If you can't climb ladders the tour is discouraged as it is for women who are pregnant. Tours are not recommended for children 5 and under.



The Razorback will be docked at the old Gator's site on the east end of the Riverwalk Park near the Main Street Bridge. Parking is readily available close to the boat.

Please continue to monitor our website at www.NorthLittleRock.Ar.gov for updated information.

NATIONAL CONVENTION 2005: Your Shipmates of District Five and the Central Region are delighted to welcome you to the first U.S. Submarine Veterans convention to be held in Middle America, Kansas City, where the East meets the West, as America's "Geocenter" is 250 miles west of Kansas City. Originally named West Port ("Portal to the West,"), Kansas City will celebrate its 185th Birthday in 2005. Its name was changed to "Town of Kansas" in 1850 (after the Kansas Indians), and in 1853 was given its current name. Steeped in Midwestern history and lore, its primary industry in the 1830s was cattle and cowboys, enduring long drives from Texas and then for railroad distribution throughout America.

Kansas City is also headquarters of world-class barbeque - home to the Kansas City Barbeque Society, and host to the world's largest BBQ contest, the American Royal, held each October. We'll treat you to a real alfresco Kansas City BBQ.

And just a few miles away is the home of our 33rd President, Harry Truman. We'll conduct a full day tour (including a sit-down lunch) of historic Independence and the Harry S. Truman historical sites. If you're a history buff, this is the place to be. Also, a relatively unknown fact about Kansas City is that it has more flowing fountains than all of Rome.

Oh yes, here's something of interest, especially to those of you who will be coming to Kansas City from the east via Interstate 70, there is a 54-mile stretch of interstate that was dedicated in September 2004 to commemorate the 52 subs lost in WWII and the 2 boats lost during the cold war. Look for the "US Submarine Veterans Memorial Highway" near Columbia, Missouri. Plan to come for the 2005 Convention and stay through Labor Day as there really is so much to do and see. So, while you're here, enjoy where the true heart of Middle America began!

NATIONAL CONVENTION 2007 INFORMATION: 2007 Convention (Alaska Cruise)

2007 National Convention Chairman, Bud Berg and three members of the Bremerton Base E-board visited the Holland America cruiser, MS Oosterdam at the invitation of Holland America management and agents.

The Oosterdam, less than 2 years old, is super plush ship with a variety of cabins to fit anyone's budget. For those who may not want to have cabin visitors, the least expensive cabins will fit the bill for the 7 day Alaska Cruise, Seattle to Seattle in September of 2007.

For those who like to entertain in their suites, the veranda suites will certainly be the best. Please go to this website to see these images including deck layouts of these top of the line ocean cruisers.

<http://www.hollandamerica.com/fleet/fleetHome.do?ship=os> .

ETERNAL PATROL:



Charles Lasch
1930-2004

CHARLES LASCH
PALM BAY

Charles Anthony Lasch, a retired Navy Commander, submariner and golfer, died Tuesday, October 5, 2004. He was 74 years old.

Commander Lasch was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1960, he was commissioned an Ensign from the enlisted ranks through the Limited Duty Officer Program. In 1949 he was selected for Submarine training at the Naval Submarine Base in Groton, Connecticut and was designated a naval submariner the following year.

He was assigned to the submarine SKATE during its historic trip to the North Pole in 1958, in which several records were broken - surfacing at the North Pole, circumnavigating the earth at a 2-mile radius, surfacing alongside the Air Force Drifting Ice Station Alpha, and remaining free from the earth's atmosphere for over 31 days. Other assignments took Commander Lasch to various submarine Flotillas and Squadrons, the submarines Threadfin and Clamagore and other submarine support activities. His last tour was at the Naval Submarine Base at Pearl Harbor where he served as Comptroller and Management and Plans Officer.



Commander Lasch retired in 1978 with over 30 years of service. His awards included two Meritorious Service Medals, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, two Navy Unit Citations, Meritorious Unit Citation, seven good conduct medals and two National Defense Service Medals.

He came to Palm Bay in 1978 and was a member of the Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion, VFW, The Retired Officers Association, and the United States Submarine Veterans Association.

Survivors include his wife, Rosemary (Gehringer) Lasch of Palm Bay; daughters, Denise Aligood of St. Marys, Ga., Jean Biedul of Palm Bay, Donna Edwards of Puryear, Tenn., and Dawn Hymel of Franklin, N.C. He has eight surviving grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

No calling hours are scheduled. Commander Lasch will be cremated and his ashes inurned at Arlington National Cemetery.

Arrangements entrusted to Palm Bay Funeral Home, Palm Bay, Fla., (321) 724-2224.



Bill Thomas
1936-2004

CHARLES THOMAS
MELBOURNE

Charles "Bill" Thomas, 68, a retired CPO US Navy Submarine Fleet, died Sunday, September 5, 2004.

Mr. Thomas was born in Ashland, Ky. He came to Brevard County in 1965 from California.

He was a member of VFW Post #4206 and the Submariner Association.

Mr. Thomas is survived by his wife, Luana S. Thomas; sons, Tim and Barry Thomas; daughter, Kimberly Birnie; and five grandchildren.

No local services scheduled.

Brownlie-Maxwell Funeral Home in Melbourne is serving the family. (321) 723-2345.

John Price
1947-2004

John H. Price,
Jensen Beach

John H. Price, 57, died Sept. 18, 2004, at Lawwood Regional Medical Center in Fort Pierce.

He was a native of Philadelphia and lived in Jensen Beach since 1987, coming from Bucks County, Pa.

He served in the Navy during the Vietnam War.

He was a registered nurse and branch director of Allied Home Care in Jensen Beach for four years.

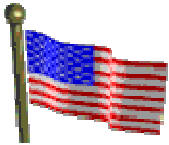
He was a member of St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Jensen Beach, where he served as an usher for the Latin Mass.

He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, 4th degree, and was a past honor guard, grand knight of the Jensen Beach Council; past district deputy of the Knights of Columbus and



RECOMMENDED READING: "SHADOW DIVERS" by Robert Kurson. This superlative journalistic narrative tells of John Chatterton and Rich Kohler, two deep-sea wreck divers who in 1991 dove to a mysterious wreck lying at the perilous depth of 230 feet, off the coast of New Jersey. Both had a philosophy of excelling and pushing themselves to the limit; both needed all their philosophy and fitness to proceed once they had identified the wreck as a WWII U-boat. As Kurson, a writer for *Esquire*, narrates in this debut, the two divers next undertook a seven-year search for the U-boat's identity inside the wreck, in a multitude of archives and in a host of human memories. Along the way, Chatterton's diving cost him a marriage, and Kohler's love for his German heritage helped turn him into a serious U-boat scholar. The two lost three of their diving companions on the wreck and their mentor, Bill Nagle, to alcoholism. (Chowdhury's *The Last Dive*, from HarperPerennial in 2002, covers two of the divers' deaths.) The successful completion of their quest fills in a gap in WWII history-the fate of the Type IX U-boat U-869. Chatterton and Kohler's success satisfied them and a diminishing handful of U-boat survivors. While Kurson doesn't stint on technical detail, lovers of any sort of adventure tale will certainly absorb the author's excellent characterizations, and particularly his balance in describing the combat arm of the Third Reich. Felicitous cooperation between author and subject rings through every page of this rare insightful action narrative.

MASSING OF THE COLORS: Snug Harbor has received an invitation to participate in this year's "Massing of the Colors" at the Brevard Community College, Cocoa campus, on Nov. 11, 2004. Our Base Commander needs 2 "volunteers" (preferably someone that has a vest) to carry the National flag and the Base flag, to march with him in the ceremony. Assembly time is 2:15 P.M. and "March On" is at 3:00 P.M.



The invitation to the ceremony is extended to ALL of our members and their families to attend as spectators. If you would like to "volunteer" to carry one of the flags, let Gil know ASAP, so that he can reply to the invitation as to whether we will participate or not.

SNUG HARBOR SHIP STORE: Pat Pecorelli, assisted by Larry Hall, has relieved Gil as the Base Storekeeper. Please make all future requests for Ship Store items to Pat. His phone number is 321-777-6913 and his E-mail address is "bblehead@aol.com"

The new D-4 patch is now posted on the Snug Harbor website Shipstore, <http://www.decklog.com/snugharbor>. They sell for \$6 at the meeting or \$6.75 by mail. They will have them at the meetings or if you want to order by mail, send or email Pat so that you can send him the money.

BIRTHDAYS: October, November and December 2004

October

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Michael L. Artibee | Leo A. Carter |
| Tim Clarke | Eldon Davis |
| Jesse B. Davis | Fredrick L. Ebner |
| William T. Gunn | Patricia Kettering |
| Paul R. King | William A. Meinert Sr |
| Jerry C. Padrta | Richard H. Peterson |
| Dieter Rosellen | Patrick A. Shifflett |
| Tim Toll | Paul R. Williams |
| Jean L. Wright | |

November

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Lee L. Alonso | Dudley Bowling |
| Larry J. Cameron | Raymond E. Coons |
| Richard P. Flynn | Joseph P. Fontana |
| Ken Kettering | Franklin G. King |
| Will R. Kyles | Ralph R. Lachance |
| Bill K. Langford | Pat Moore |
| Joseph Ondo Jr | Keith F. Post |
| Harold L. Sheffield | Larry P. Sicard |
| Domingo Sipin | Francis Stafford |
| William H. Wheeler | Robert G. Wright |

December

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Richard S. Abraham | William E. Crawford |
| Jeanne L. Edwards | Raymond F. Hackett |
| Gary H. Hogeland | William E. Irvine |
| Rita Legere | John Marcenec |
| Gainey S. Maxwell | Greg Moore |
| Gary P. Mullins | Barbara Olsson |
| Jack H. Peach | William T. Quinn |
| Jim Sirois | Joe Steckler |

BASE MEETINGS: The November meeting will be on November 13, 2005 (delayed 1 week due to the Memorial Service at Kings Bay) The December meeting will be on December 4th. Both meetings will be held at VFW Post #4206 located at 3201 S. Dairy Rd. in Melbourne, Fl. Gil has rescheduled Mr. Tom Kimmel, Grandson of Admiral Husband Kimmel (who was CINCPAC when the JAPANESE bombed Pearl Harbor) to be our "Guest Speaker" at our Nov.13th meeting. Gil would appreciate it if as many of the members as can make it will attend the meeting.

Until next time . . . keep a Zero Bubble
AHOOOOOOOOOOOOOGA



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Regular Life Associate

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 Government"

I subscribe to the Creed of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., and agree to abide by the Constitution, all Bylaws, Regulations and Procedures governing the U.S. Submarine veterans, Inc., so long as they do not conflict with my military or civil obligations. I will furnish further proof of my eligibility for Regular or Life membership, including an Honorable Discharge and U.S. Navy (SS) Designation, if required by proper authority.

NATIONAL DUES:
Annual: \$20 (1st year) - \$10 (Subsequent years)
Life: (Age 65 + = \$50) (\$5 to 65 = \$100) (45 to 55 = \$150) (Under 45 = \$250)
Annual Base Dues: (\$10 for Snug Harbor)

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Name: (Print or Type) _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Tel: (____) _____

E-Mail Address (If applicable) _____ Base Desired: _____

Sponsor: _____ (Associate or Groton Base Membership Only)

Associate Applicant is: Veteran Sponsor of Veteran Other (Specify) _____

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA (New Membership/Updates/Changes)

Please provide the information requested below. This information will be retained in the National and/or Base Database. Individual Bases may request additional data for their specific use only.

Date Of Birth (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____ Spouse: _____

Highest Rank Attained: _____ Retired (Y/N): ____ (Year) _____ Active Duty (Y/N) _____

Qual Boat: _____ Hull#: _____ Qual Date (MM/YY): _____ From Yr. ____ to ____

Qual Rank/Rate: _____ Highest Rank/Rate attained aboard: _____

Other Boats: _____ Hull#: _____ From Yr. ____ to ____

Highest Rank/Rate attained aboard: _____ If SSBN Crew (B)/(G): _____

_____ Hull#: _____ From Yr. ____ to ____

Highest Rank/Rate attained aboard: _____ If SSBN Crew (B)/(G): _____

_____ Hull#: _____ From Yr. ____ to ____

Highest Rank/Rate attained aboard: _____ If SSBN Crew (B)/(G): _____

_____ Hull#: _____ From Yr. ____ to ____

Highest Rank/Rate attained aboard: _____ If SSBN Crew (B)/(G): _____

_____ Hull#: _____ From Yr. ____ to ____

Highest Rank/Rate attained aboard: _____ If SSBN Crew (B)/(G): _____

_____ Hull#: _____ From Yr. ____ to ____

Highest Rank/Rate attained aboard: _____ If SSBN Crew (B)/(G): _____

Upon completion mail along with your check made out to "USSVI-Snug Harbor" to: Gil Shaddock, 125 Elm Ave., Satellite Beach, Fl. 32937-3370. Phone: 321-777-2453 Fax: 321-777-2453 E-Mail "gil@ssbn601.com"

2004 Annual Submarine Veteran's Christmas Party

Hosted by Mobile Bay Base
December 9, 10 and 11
Radisson Admiral Semmes Hotel
251 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36602
1-800-333-3333

Rooms \$57.00 includes parking

Tell Hotel you are Sub Vet for special price
Hospitality Room and Banquet \$35.00
Hospitality Room Only \$12.00
Banquet Christmas Party Saturday night
This is a Christmas Party and Gifts will be Distributed to All Everyone Bring a Present
Men bring a Guy's gift and Ladies bring a Ladies gift
Banquet will have a Cash Bar starting at 6 P.M. followed by Dinner and Party at 7 P.M.

Menu

Chef's Selection of Three Specialty Salads
Entree
Oven Baked Chicken
Baked Parmesan Catfish with Grilled Seafood Sauce
Chef's Selection of Starch & Vegetable
Iced Tea & Coffee
Assorted Dessert Display
Hospitality Room and Banquet Room located on Second Floor
Memorial Service at Battleship Park Saturday December 11th at 11 A.M. in the Aircraft Pavilion
Followed by Catered BBQ Lunch Provided by Mobile Bay Base
Big Basket of Christmas Cheer to be Ruffled Saturday Night 6 for \$5.00
Large Split the Pot 50/50 Saturday Night 6 for \$5.00

This is not a profit maker; any profit above cost will go to the Drum repair fund
Please Mail your Reservations for Banquet and Hospitality room to Mobile Bay Base
PO Box 190756.
Mobile, Alabama 36619-4299
Make check payable to Mobile Bay Base USSVI
Reservations have to be in by December 5, 2004
No refunds for Banquet after December 6, 2004
Any Problems or Questions? Please call Paul York at 1-251-689-9380

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ SPOUSE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

ATTENDING BANQUET/INCLUDES HOSPITALITY ROOM _____ X \$35 = \$ _____

HOSPITALITY ROOM ONLY/NOT ATTENDINGBANOUET _____ X \$12 = \$ _____

LARGE 50/50 RAFFLE (6 FOR \$5) HOW MANY _____ X \$5 = \$ _____

BASKET OF CHRISTMAS CHEER (6 FOR \$5) HOW MANY _____ X \$5 = \$ _____