Tri State Deck Log



906 Thompson Street Martinsburg, WV 25401

"Life is simple, you're either qualified or you're not"
November 2014 Issue
(Semper Gumby)
TRI STATE BASE

The Deck Log
Check out the TRI-STATE BASE WEB PAGE at: http://www.ussvi-tri-statebase.org

1 November 2014

TRISTATE Sub Base Point-of-Contact Information

BASE COMMANDER - THOM PESCHKE/ Ph - 301-712-5095 E-Mail address: tgpeschke@gmail.com

BASE VICE COMMANDER - DAN HULINGS/ Ph -717-263-4826 E-Mail address:harley224@embargmail.com

BASE SECRETARY -DANA BOSTWICK/ Ph - 240-389-7621 E-Mail address: dtbost@aol.com

BASE TREASURER – DAN GLOGG/Ph 304-596-4400 E-mail address: faman1955@yahoo.com

BASE CHAPLAIN – JON FADER/ Ph (301) 798-2576. E-mail address: faderj1@juno.com

COB (B) – DOUG SMITH/ Ph (301) 788-6434. E-Mail address: dsmith@ussvi-tri-statebase.org

COB (G) - RAY BUSSARD/Ph 301-371-5036E-mail address: Rmbussard@aol.com

WAYS and MEANS/STOREKEEPER - DON BOOS/Ph (301) 898-5399. E-mail address: ddboos@prodigy.net

BASE HISTORIAN / WEB MASTER – DOUG SMITH/ Ph (301) 788-6434. E-Mail address: dsmith@pdrinc.com

USSVI Point-of-Contact Information

NATIONAL COMMANDER - AL SINGLEMAN/ Ph - 518-355-2119

NATIONAL SENIOR VICE COMMANDER - JOHN MARKIEWICZ/ Ph - 904-743-2924

NATIONAL JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER - WILLIAM ANDREA/ Ph - 561-790-1287

NATIONAL SECRETARY - RAYMOND WEWERS/Ph 479-967-5541

NATIONAL TREASURER – PAUL HISER/Ph 215-317-5666







TRI-STATE BASE MEMBERS THAT HOLD NATIONAL OFFICE TOM DENTON NATIONAL ARTIST

UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC.

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.

Do you want a painting of your Boat? Go to WWW.SUBMARINEART.COM and order a picture today.

Great for an office, "I love me wall", or as a gift for a Submarine lover anywhere!

"Life is simple, you're either qualified or you're not"

Check out the TRI-STATE BASE WEB PAGE at: http://www.ussvi-tri-statebase.org

USSVI Tri State Base 2014 - 2015 Calendar of Events

Dec 6th – Christmas Party @ AmVets, Middletown, MD 1 PM Jan 10th – Meeting at Pikes Restaurant, Gettysburg, PA

As the Tri State Base does some hopping to do its meetings, the below locations are for your use. With these and the Calendar of events, you will always be at the right place on the right day...

Pikes Restaurant 985 Baltimore Pike, Gettysburg, PA (717) 334-9227

Golden Corral 625 Foxcroft Avenue, Martinsburg, WV (304) 260-5300

Golden Corral 5621 Spectrum Drive, Frederick, MD 301 662-5922

American Legion Post 96 18 South Maple Avenue, Brunswick, MD 301 834-8121







The invocation was given by **Base Chaplain Jon Fader** followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Base Vice Commander Dan Hulings gave the USSVI Creed.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

A total of 35 personnel including guests and visitors were on hand for the November 2014 Sub Base Meeting; those in attendance were:

Sub Base Members (18) – Don Boos, Dana Bostwick, Ray Bussard, Tom Denton, Jon Fader, Rolland Eugene (Zeke) Ferrell, Dan Glogg, Dan Hulings, Buck Kilmer, Gilbert McCabe, Thom Peschke, Jim Ruddy, Tom Samuelson, Glen Sherrard, Doug Smith, Felix B Stewart, John Traxler, Jim Wilhelm

Member Spouses/Significant Others (10) – Roxanne Bostwick, Pat Wilhelm, Dot Traxler, Shirley Ferrell, Barbara McCabe, Sandra Sherrard, Stephany Peschke, Linda Kilmer, Carol Ann Samuelson, Betty Bussard

Visitors (7) – Ron Rickwald, Sam Traxler, Chashe Ferrell, Rob Tigton, Larry Peschke, Suzie Q Peschke, Eric Peschke

The SUBMARINE MEMORIAL DAYS: The following submarines suffered loss of life in a shipboard disaster, either at the hands of an enemy or by some other means. To honor those lost shipmates, who have departed and are still on their LAST PATROL, mark your calendar and fly your flag on the day of the disaster. Also remember them and their families in your prayers.

THIS IS THE PURPOSE OF THE UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS.

The U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II have assigned states to boats lost during the war.

	rember list: RINES LOST er	SAILORS LOST	STATE ASSIGNED	
	ALBACORE (SS 218)	85 ¹	OREGON	
	GROWLER (SS 215)	86	HAWAII	
16 1944	SCAMP (SS 277)	83	MISSOURI	
16 1944	CORVINA (SS 226)	82	NEVADA	
19 1943	SCULPIN (SS 191)	63 ²	MAINE	

¹Sylvester Martin Wright, Steward's Mate, Second Class, is listed as being lost with his shipmates. Records in the National Archives show that he was transferred off the **Albacore** immediately before she was lost.

Tri-State Base members who have departed on Eternal Patrol were then remembered. 1997 - 2009 = 24

BILL HOOD	TOM BLOCK	LOU GRAVES	GORDON YETTER
CALVIN WALTON	JOHN HUSTON	LEONARD SINGEL	ROBERT FORREST
GLENN HILL	KARL WELTY	DAVE GLOTFELTY	BILL COLLINS
TONY CHIMENTI	HAROLD OLIVE	DICK SPRINCE	JOHN LUSHER
LEW HANSEN	GLEN BEARINGER	DON HORST	HAL GOODNOW
B.J. CALVERT	CHRIS KOUNAS	RICHARD E. SAUNDERS	THORNTON "PAT" WHITE

²A number of men survived the sinking of **Sculpin**, but died while being transported from Truk to Japan when IJN Chuyo was sunk by USS Sailfish on December 3, 1943.







2010 = 4

BOB ATKINSON BOB BRITSCH HENRY CRANFORD JACK PRISLEY

2011 = 3

BULL DURHAM JIM FERRELL RUSS SWART

2012 = 5

JOE HINSON TED LEHNHART WAYNE SCHWEITZER JOHN POFFENBERGER

JOE BARNACK

2013 = 3

GUS MARTIN

CARL LINSENBACH

GEORGE HINDA

2014 = 3

MIKE IACONA FREDERICK GERS MIKE MCMAHON IVAN KINSINGER

Rest your oars shipmates, Rest your oars...

NEWEST SHIPMATES

Ron Rickwald visited and is a potential base member. Ron qualified on the Scamp. His second boat was the Casmir Pulaski. He was in the Navy 21 years.

The best way for the Tri State Base to grow is if you invite new members. If you see a set of dolphins on a car, please follow up.

REPORTS:

Secretary

- The minutes from the last official meeting were included in the October Deck Log.
- Tom Samuelson advised that he qualified on the USS Tunney SS 282 vice SSN 682. It has been duly noted and the Secretary's report stands corrected. The report was approved as amended.

Treasurer

- Treasurer Dan Glogg gave his report at the November meeting. The report was approved.
- Dan announced that annual dues are due and to give them to him today or at the next meeting or send them to him directly.
- Commander Thom Peschke emphasized that those who are members and have financial difficulty in
 paying their dues, do not let that be a hindrance. Contact the Treasurer and arrangements can be made
 to take care of the dues.

WAYS AND MEANS

The store is open.







Membership Tri-State Base Membership as of 31 October 2014

Number
7
22
2
22
33
90
4
4
100

Benevolence Report given by Base Chaplain, Jon Fader Doug Smith Ron and Judy Ryland Bud Huntington Bob Patrick

A big thanks to Joan Fader for making Thinking of You cards for members to sign and send to those who are in need of an uplift.



Birthdays for the month of November:

Ray Bussard, Dottie Graves, Paula Hines, William Hines, Lynda Kuhar, Thomas Peschke, Gary Shirk, John Shirk, Toni Swart, Lynette Scansen

THE CONN:

The Conn - Sadly My last one

I want to thank the Base for its support during my two year run as Commander.

There are several things we did that I can look back on and smile. Our district mini-conference was a great success. I want to thank everyone who assisted especially Jim and Pat Willhelm for taking on the hospitality portion. We received a lot of positive feedback.

Thank you again to Pat and Jim for hosting one of the meetings at Willie's Hideout, for preparing and bringing the brisket to the annual meeting and Jim for your skill and dedication for building the Torpedo carriage.

I would like to take a few moments to thank others who have quietly supported the day to day operations of the base:

- Dan Hulings who gave his unwavering support to me.
- Doug Smith, who despite his health, has continuously worked hard to get our website running and keeping it updated.







- Danny Glogg and Tom Samuelsen who took the time to do it right in maintaining our finances so that we can pursue the betterment of USSVI.
- Dana Bostwick who prepares the Deck Log that keeps us all informed and does so spot on.
- Don Boos who continually brings those supplies to all our meetings so our wants and needs can be met and now guides the Holland Club.
- Joan and Jon Fader who keep those cards rolling out to shipmates in need.
- Tom Denton whose artwork has brought a HUGE smile to many a guest speaker.
- John Traxler who runs our Eagle program.
- Ray Bussard who shepherds our picnics and Christmas parties.
- Pat Poist who organized and ran the golf tournament
- Barry Ensminger who has been my mentor and USSVI encyclopedia
- And last but not least, to all of you who take the time to attend the monthly meetings in diverse locations
 to make our organization grow.
- If I have missed anyone specific, I apologize.

I am also very pleased to see that our ladies are coming together to create a Subvettes base.

Dan Hulings, as you accept the position of the next Base Commander, you have a great base full of wonderfully warm and hardworking folks. I know you will make the base better under your leadership and know that I am here to assist in any way I can.

To all of you and all you do, I humbly extend a salute. And a hearty THANK YOU.

God Bless you all and again... Thank you and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Base Commander, Thom Peschke

CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS:

Dex Armstrong's memorial service: letter from his daughter Cathy (Armstrong) Harlow quoted as follows -

We have word that Dad's Memorial Service will be held on 9 January at 3:00 p.m. Just as with Mom's service, Dad's service will begin at the Old Post Chapel at Ft. Myer and will continue at the Arlington Cemetery Columbarium. We will have a reception following that will be in very close proximity.

Although it was a longer wait than expected to hear from the Arlington schedulers, we are tremendously thankful for them and we know that the longer wait is probably a reflection that there are so many fine veterans in this country. That's something we are really thankful for!







HOLLAND CLUB

Congratulations to Zeke Ferrell who received his Holland Club certificate, patch, and membership card for being in the submarine service for 50 years since 1964.



Zeke Ferrell Receiving His Holland Club Certificate Presented by Base Commander, Thom Peschke

EAGLE SCOUT PROGRAM

No report

NEW BUSINESS

- Election of Officers; The following individuals were elected:
 - Base Commander Dan Hulings
 - Base Vice Commander Tom Samuelson in an advisory capacity under the condition that he will not run for Base Commander
 - Base Secretary Dana Bostwick
 - o Base Treasurer Dan Glogg
- Tom Denton has been tasked to come up with a certificate/picture unique to Tri-State Base for presentation to our supporters/guest speakers and so on







QUAL BOAT OF THE MONTH: USS SIRAGO (SS 485)

Members who qualified on the Sirago include: Jim Wilhelm.

USS Sirago (SS-485), a Tench-class submarine, was named for the sirago, a small, freshwater tropical fish.

Construction and launch

Her keel was laid down on 4 January 1945 at the Portsmouth Navy Yard in Kittery, Maine. She was launched on 13 May 1945, sponsored by Mrs. L. Mendel Rivers and commissioned on 13 August 1945 with Commander F. J. Harlfinger, II, in command.

First duties

Commissioned at the end of World War II, *Sirago* conducted her shakedown cruise off the East Coast and in the Caribbean Sea during the fall of 1945. After shakedown, she joined Submarine Squadron (SubRon) 8 at New London, Connecticut, and, in January 1946, she proceeded to Provincetown, Massachusetts, where she participated in the destruction of two German submarines. On returning to New London, *Sirago* commenced duties that included training services for the Submarine School and for the fleet's destroyer force; experimental exercises to evaluate new techniques and equipment; type training; and fleet exercises that took her from Davis Strait into the Caribbean. In December 1948, she entered the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard for a Greater Underwater Propulsive Power Program (GUPPY) conversion; and, on 25 July 1949, she left the yard for Norfolk, Virginia, where, as a modernized high-speed attack submarine, she joined SubRon 6.

Attached to SubRon 6 for the next twenty-two years, *Sirago*'s primary mission was antisubmarine warfare. Secondary missions included anti-shipping warfare, intelligence gathering, and the provision of services for research and development studies. Those duties, during the 1950s, continued to see her operating primarily in the western Atlantic as she participated in exercises with others of her ASW group; in fleet exercises; in joint Canadian-United States exercises, and in NATO exercises, which took her into the eastern Atlantic Ocean and North Sea areas. During the 1950s, she also deployed to the Mediterranean Sea where she operated as a unit of the Sixth Fleet from September to November 1951 and from September to December 1954.

Overhaul and new service

In October 1962, *Sirago* entered the Norfolk Naval Shipyard for another extensive overhaul which included the installation of a fiberglass superstructure and sail and, in the spring of 1963, she resumed operations with her ASW group, Task Group "ALFA." That fall, she deployed to the Middle East for CENTO exercise "MIDLINK VI"; but, during the remainder of the 1960s and into the 1970s, her operations were similar to those of the 1950s.

On 1 July 1971, with Commander Clyde H. Shaffer Jr. in command, *Sirago* was reassigned to SubRon 12 at Key West, Florida; but, less than four months later, on 15 October, she was ordered back to Norfolk, where she rejoined SubRon 6 for one more year.







Decommissioning

Sirago remained in SubRon 6 until she was decommissioned on 1 June 1972. Struck from the Naval Vessel Register on the same day, she was turned over to the Naval Ships Systems Command and sold for scrapping to the Jacobson Metal Company of Chesapeake, Virginia, on 2 May 1973.



USS SIRAGO (SS 485)

GOOD OF THE ORDER



Dan Hulings, and Jack Ensminger were U.S. Navy submarine crewmen and were honored with other veterans Friday (October 24th) at Chambersburg Area Senior High School, first with dinner and later with a special ceremony during half time of Trojans' football game against Harrisburg High School. (Ryan Blackwell — Public Opinion)

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- Jim Wilhelm provided an update report on the torpedo. The mounts and bench supports are assembled. We could use the current banner, but a larger one is in order.
- Tom Samuelson talked about attending the reunion and the dedication of the plaque for the USS Tinosa (SS-283) held in San Antonio, Texas. They went to Fredericksburg, Texas, where they have the Museum of the War in the Pacific, where they dedicated the plaque to the Tinosa at the memorial garden. Next year the USS Tunny (SS-282) is going to have their reunion and plaque ceremony at Fredericksburg, Texas, also. Tom recommended the San Antonio site as a good place for a boat reunion.
- Ray Bussard talked about the "Smoke Boat" reunion coming up next April in Virginia Beach, for those on diesel boats.
- Doug Smith announced about the memorial service for Veterans Day at the War Memorial Park in Frederick. See photos taken in the Special Segment part of this deck log.
- We received word that one of our members, Ivan Kinsinger, passed away in October. His name has been placed on our Eternal Patrol list. We wish condolences to his family and friends.
- Base Commander, Thom Peschke, commented on the excellent website Doug Smith is building. This
 was affirmed by the base members.
- We had an error in the August 2014 Deck Log. It reads, "Our second guest speaker was John Lehman whose topic was on World War I submarine information for both American and German boats." It should have read, "Our second guest speaker was John Price whose topic was on World War I submarine information for both American and German boats." Our apologies go to John Price for putting in the wrong name, and, once again, thank you for a most informative presentation.

WIT AND WISDOM



A Vintage Photo of ETC Tom Denton and his spouse, Deb







PEARL HARBOR (NNS) -- Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet acknowledged the importance of chief petty officers in his latest "Rat-Pac Report" podcast posted April 2, 2008.

In conjunction with the 115th anniversary of the chief petty officer rank, established April 1, 1893, Adm. Robert F. Willard discussed how chiefs have made the Navy a unique fighting force.

"I would argue that there are three fundamental things that make our services so great and really represent the overmatch that we've enjoyed for so many years as a superpower military," said Willard, "...our technologies... our application of joint and coalition warfare ... [and] our all-volunteer force.

"And, what makes our all-volunteer force unique in all the world," Willard said, "are those chief petty officers and noncommissioned officers that really bridge the gap between our enlisted corps personnel volunteers and our young officers."

SUBVETTES



Subvettes – October 2014 Meeting Minutes

In attendance for the October information gathering session were Mary Lou Naughton, Sandra Bostwick-Trinidade, Roxanne Bostwick, Dorothy Traxler, Sharon Hartman, Barbara McCabe, Carol Samuelsen, and Betty Bussard. There was lots of discussion regarding the organization and what our group could or would want to accomplish. I would like to thank Mary Lou Naughton for assisting me in speaking with the Ladies regarding information about Subvettes, The Ladies Auxiliary of the USSVI Subvets organization.

We only had a few minutes to conduct this meeting, but Mary Lou gave some history of the Subvettes organization and stated that there are currently 10 Subvettes Bases. I let everyone know that the National dues was only \$20 for the first year, \$10 every year thereafter and for those 65 or older life membership was \$50. We gave a listing of what some of the really active Subvettes Bases had accomplished during the year, especially regarding the project with the Stars from the US Flag. While we can't do everything all at once, it will be necessary to determine what our members would have a passion for. It was determined that more discussion would be conducted next month after obtaining information from National Subvettes regarding the requirements to start a Subvettes Base. Then we all returned to the Subvets meeting to hear the two speakers.

After the Subvets' meeting ended, a few of the ladies gathered to continue discussions and give ideas. While we have different talents, different skills, and different time restraints - as a diverse group working together we can accomplish more and overcome many obstacles. I also know that you will only get out of an organization what you put into it. I mean that if you join, but never attend a meeting or sit in the back and never try to assist with any projects or give any ideas, you will loose interest and gain no self satisfaction from completing any accomplishment or making a difference.

I am so pleased and delighted to state that three ladies signed up during this after meeting discussion!! So currently there are 5 committed Charter members. I would like to thank Dana Bostwick for sponsoring two of the







newest members and his donation of \$17.00 to the Subvettes. He did this with his winnings of the 50-50 drawing. Thank you Dana!!!

I would also like to thank Dorothy Traxler for her donation of baby wipes and LOTS of coupons. I understand her husband cut out all the coupons for our group (he NEVER cut coupons for her - so we feel VERY honored)!! Thank you both for all your efforts!

Please plan to attend our November meeting and bring any questions you might have, please also bring your thoughts and ideas of what you would like to see this organization accomplish. If you want to send them in advance, you can email them to me at sapeschke.mk@gmail.com.

Please know that I am not looking to start a social club and I am not so foolish that I believe every female attending the meetings with their Submariner will join our organization. But I am looking to form an organization with passion, pride and desire. I am so excited!!!! I can't believe that this is finally becoming a reality. What a difference we can make in the lives of military personnel - both active and retired!

Respectfully submitted,

Stephany A. Peschke, CAP-OM
Proud Wife of MMCM(SS) Thom Peschke, USN Ret

Subvettes - November 2014 Meeting Minutes

During the November meeting four ladies made the commitment, which completes the required number of members needed to start the organizing of our Tri-State Subvettes Base! The seven that have taken this first step and signed their National Membership forms are Roxanne Bostwick, Betty Bussard, Barbara McCabe, Carol Samuelson, Sandra Sherrard, Dorothy Traxler, and Sandra Bostwick-Trinidade. Two National members Mary Lou Naughton, a national member-at-large and of course lifetime national member Stephany Peschke have committed to join our base. This brings our group to nine!! We still have room for more.

The nominating committee, Barbara McCabe and Roxanne Bostwick, has the following list of officers that have stated their willingness to serve:

President: Stephany Peschke Vice-President: Betty Bussard Treasurer: Sandra Sherrard

Secretary: Sandra Bostwick-Trinidade

I have contacted the National Subvettes President again and again requested the requirements for organizing and operating a new base, the national constitution and the national bylaws. She apologized and stated that she did not receive the original request and has promised to send them to me by Monday. Once I have received the requirements for the next steps, there will need to be a vote to install these officers serving during our first year.

Sandra Sherrard donated two star sections of the US flags to help with the "Stars for our Troops" project for remembering our veterans. We are still looking for additional embroidered star sections and request anyone who has contacts with your local VFW, American Legion or any other organization to request donations of old American flag star sections before they destroy them. Please remember that only quilted star flags are needed for this project. It was decided to make this our January project, so please bring a pair of scissors to cut out







stars or the printed phrase that is included with the star. If you do not want to cut, there will be some assembly required that we could use assistance with.

Some suggestions for other projects included: Caps for Kids, lap quilts for veterans, cell phones for soldiers, protein bars for care packages, and coupons that have not expired more than two months. These projects can all be done to support our troops overseas. A seasonal project suggested was Wreaths across America. The decision on which projects we will undertake will be decided at a future meeting.

Barbara McCabe showed the cross stitch she is working on "Submariner's Wife" and stated that once she has completed it – she is going to donate it to be raffled for our group. Thank you Barbara, we appreciate your efforts.

I would like to take a moment to thank both Sandra Bostwick-Trinidade and Roxanne Bostwick for their assistance with the taking of the meeting minutes.

There will be no December meeting as it is the Base's Christmas party. I unfortunately will not be present as I am in charge of my company's holiday party in Tennessee and it is the same evening. I hope everyone enjoys the merriment of the evening. Wishing everyone a safe, happy holiday season and I will see you at the January meeting.

Respectfully, Stephany Peschke

The 50 - 50 for September was \$50 and was won by Jim Ruddy

The meeting was ended with Base Chaplain, Jon Fader, reading Lost Harbor.

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.

NEXT AND NEXT

Our next gatherings are as follows:

Dec 6th – Christmas Party @ AmVets, Middletown, MD 1PM Jan 10th – Meeting at Pikes Restaurant, Gettysburg, PA







SPECIAL SEGMENT: VETERANS DAY EVENTS



On 11 November, Tom Samuelsen, Tom Denton, Thom Peschke, Don Boos, Jim Tucker, and Jon Fader (not shown) participated in the Veterans Day ceremony in Frederick Memorial Park.



Group Shot Showing Tom Samuelsen, Tom Denton, Thom Peschke, Don Boos, Jon Fader, and Jim Tucker

