



Sculpin Base POD

USSVI Class 4

Newsletter of the Year-2022

4th Quarter 2022

The Sculpin Base POD is a quarterly publication of the Sculpin Base; a proud Base of United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI).

USSVI CREED AND PURPOSE

The purpose/creed of USSVI is 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 may be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments, and to pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, USSVI shall provide a way for all submariners to gather for their mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. The USSVI supports a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today.

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[USSVI Website](#)

[Sculpin Base Website](#)

Lost Submarines—Fourth Quarter

USS Seawolf (SS-197)

Lost on October 3, 1944 with the loss of 83 crew members and 17 U.S. Army personnel on her 15th war patrol when she was sunk just north of Moritai by USS Rowell, a Destroyer Escort (DE). In this tragic error, Rowell mistook Seawolf for a Japanese submarine that had just sunk another Destroyer. Seawolf ranks 7th for enemy ships sunk.



USS S-44 (SS-155)

Lost on October 7, 1943 with the loss of 56 men when it was sunk off Paramushiru, Kuriles. S-44 was on her 5th war patrol after attacking a target thought to be a merchant on the surface, S-44 found herself in a losing gun battle with a heavily armed Japanese destroyer. Two men were taken prisoner and survived the war.



USS Wahoo (SS-238)

Lost on October 11, 1943 with the loss of 80 men near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, LCDR "Mush" Morton, Wahoo was on her 7th war patrol. Wahoo had won a Presidential Unit Citation and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. She was sunk by combined air and surface attack.



USS Dorado (SS-248)

Lost on October 12, 1943 with the loss of 77 men when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, she had departed New London and was en route to Panama. She may have been sunk by a U.S. patrol plane that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas.



USS Escolar (SS-294)

Lost on or after October 17, 1944 with the loss of 82 men. She was on



her 1st war patrol and was lost to a mine in the Yellow Sea.

USS Shark II (SS-314)

Lost on October 24, 1944 with the loss of 87 men when she was sunk in the Luzon Strait near Hainan. The second boat to carry this name during World War II, she was on her 3rd war patrol. Shark was sunk by escorts after attacking and sinking a lone freighter. Compounding the tragedy, it turned out that the freighter had 1800 U.S. POWs on board.



USS Darter (SS-227)

Lost on October 24, 1944 while on her 4th war patrol when she became grounded on Bombay Shoal off Palawan and was then destroyed to prevent her falling into enemy hands intact. The entire crew was rescued by USS Dace. Winner of one Navy Unit Commendation, Darter had sunk a heavy cruiser and damaged another and went aground while attempting an "end around" on an enemy formation in hopes of getting in an attack on a battleship.



USS Tang (SS-306)

Lost on October 25, 1944 with the loss of 78 men in the Formosa Strait while on her 5th war patrol. Tang ranks 2nd in the number of ships sunk and 4th in tonnage, and had won two Presidential Unit Citations. During a daring night surface attack, Tang was lost to a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. Nine of the crew were taken prisoner, including CDR. O'Kane and five who had gained the surface from her final resting place 180 feet below. All survived the war, and CDR O'Kane was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.



USS O-5 (SS-66)

Lost on October 29, 1923 with the loss of 3 men when rammed and sunk by SS Ababgarez off the Panama Canal. Torpedoman's Mate 2d



Class (SS) Henry Berault received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic actions.

USS Albacore (SS-218)

Lost on November 7, 1944 with the loss of 85 men when she was sunk off northern Hokkaido. Winner of two Presidential Unit Citations, Albacore was on her 11th war patrol and struck a mine while running submerged near a Japanese patrol craft that had detected her.



USS Growler (SS-215)

Lost on November 8, 1944 with the loss of 86 men when she was sunk in the South China Sea. Winner of two Navy Unit Commendations, Growler was on her 11th war patrol, and was lost while attacking a convoy as a result of a depth charge attack.



USS Corvina (SS-226)

Lost on November 16, 1943 with the loss of 82 men on her 1st war patrol when she was sunk just south of Truk. Corvina was lost to the torpedoes from a Japanese submarine.



USS Scamp (SS-277)

Lost on November 16, 1944 with the loss of 83 men near Tokyo Bay on her 8th war patrol. She may have been damaged by a mine and was trailing oil, which helped Japanese coast defense vessels locate her and destroy her with depth charges.



USS Sculpin (SS-191)

Lost on November 19, 1943 with the loss of 43 men near Truk on her 9th war patrol. Severely damaged by depth charges after attacking an enemy convoy, Sculpin continued to fight on the surface. When the captain was killed, the crew abandoned ship and scuttled Sculpin. 41 men were taken prisoner; only 21 survived the war. Among those not abandoning ship was CAPT Cromwell,



aboard as a potential wolf pack commander, he rode the Sculpin down, and fearing that vital information in his possession might be compromised under torture. For this, CAPT Cromwell was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

USS Capelin (SS-289)

Lost on or in the days prior to December 3, 1943 with the loss of 76 men on her 2nd war patrol, but her exact location in the Celebes Sea and cause of loss remain a mystery. She may have been lost to mines or an operational casualty.



USS Sealion (SS-195)

Lost on December 10, 1941 with the loss of 4 men. To prevent her from falling into enemy hands, she was scuttled in Manila Bay after incurring severe bomb damage during the initial Japanese attack.



USS F-1 / Carp (SS-20)

Lost on December 17, 1917 with the loss of 19 men when it was sunk after collision with the USS F-3 (Pickerell) (SS-22) off San Clemente, CA. 5 men survived the collision.



USS S-4 (SS-109)

Lost on December 17, 1927 with the loss of 40 and men when it was sunk after being rammed by USCG Paulding off Cape Cod near Provincetown, MA. Salvaged in 1928 and recommissioned.



GOD BLESS all Sailors and Service Personnel that are away from their loved ones this Holiday Season. Many of us were away for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years and know exactly what they are feeling. Please Pray for them and their families. Thank them for keeping us safe.



The "POD" from the Engineroom Upper Level

Shipmates,

Again, WE have won the Newsletter of the Year for our Class of Base size. THANK YOU to those who have contributed by sending in jokes, sea-stories and your "Member in the Spotlight" stories. For you that didn't, your DINK (lol).

This issue should go out before our involvement in the Emporia Veterans Day Parade on Friday, November 11th. Come join us and bring the family. Grand-kids will be proud to have "ol Grandpa" in the parade.

I ran into several "Boat Sailors" while Colleen and I were travelling around Colorado. Just wearing my Dolphins on my cap (I never leave home without one), lures them in, they can't help but to ask "what boat were you on?" What a brotherhood we have.

Get involved, volunteer yourself. Let your spouse, family, and friends know that you are proud of your Dolphins. Show your community that USSVI exists and you did your part to keep them safe. Because you did.

Again, with Veterans Day just around the corner, many people will "Thank You for your Service"; much different than the 70's when you got strange looks walking thru an airport while in uniform. My reply when people thank me for my service is to say "It was my honor to serve." - Moe(SS)

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Other BS scattered about like "the first angles and dangles after a refit."

SAY AGAIN - Next Deadline is 3 February 2023. I'll need someone to volunteer their Bio for the February issue, PLEASE!

**The "Sculpin Base POD" is the
Quarterly Newsletter of the**

Sculpin Base - United States Submarine Veterans.

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Your Sea Stories and
Input are always
WELCOME!!

Next Deadline is 3 February 2023

Phone: 704-248-7610 E-mail: donutdad53@gmail.com





Commander— E. Dale “Moe” Moses

The Base is doing well. Membership is growing, but still needs your help.

Each of us is a recruiter. We need to have a card or something to hand a potential new member; and get their info to pass along to our Membership Chairman, Bret. Wear a cap with Dolphins this is the “lure”, but only you can “set the hook”.

Why do we need membership? Re-read our Creed; “To Perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country...” and on down “The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice.” We all probably had times (or at least thought did) we came close to making that supreme sacrifice. We made it back from the sea, least we can do is dedicate a small amount of time for those who didn’t.

I have always liked doing community service. Through the American Legion as a 36 year active Life member; the VFW as an active member; La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux (40et8); and though the USSVI as an active Life member. I enjoy working with other veterans to help other veterans and their families. I enjoy working to support the programs of each of these organizations, but my favorite is working with you “Bubbleheads”. We all speak the same language.

I have belonged to various Bases out East

and still belong to a couple as a dual member. It’s amazing what can be done if we all work together. We can build monuments to honor our fellow “Brothers of the Phin”; we can educate our youth and the general public on submarine life; and we can pay tribute to our Great Nation, all while letting our children and grandchildren know how proud we were to Serve.

The Emporia Veterans Day Parade is coming up. The Sculpin Base will have a decorated pick-up (Bret’s) in the parade. We will be joined by our Kansas Sister-Base, the Dorado Base in the parade. Great recruiting opportunity for both Base. Dorado Base has a real neat float, the work a Base of volunteers. It took them years as a Base to get to this level. We are doing great, but can do better with your ideas and involvement.

Don’t be afraid to volunteer. We, like those remember in our Creed, volunteered for Submarine Duty. No one who is a USSVI member regrets volunteering; there might be some who regret volunteering, but I doubt they wear “Dolphins”. We are a proud group, let’s use our pride to the Base’s advantage and work together to strengthen our Base and the USSVI.

I hope to see many of you at the Emporia Parade to join in the fun. I do understand the travel distance and time. I want to thank all of you for your service to this Great Nation. It was my honor to serve with you in the Submarine Force of the US Navy. God Bless you all.-Moe(SS)



Base Secretary/Treasurer/Membership**Secretary**

I recently attended a ZOOM training session on the operation of the TOOLS program of the new USSVI National website. With this application, it will be possible to better maintain the information on Sculpin Base members such as membership status, address changes, etc... The program will go LIVE on 01 NOV 2022. If any members have changes to their contact info i.e. address, phone, email, etc, please let me know so I can not only update our base database but the USSVI National database as well.

I previously sent out the minutes of our last meeting but will resend them about a week prior to our next meeting on November 19th so everyone will have the opportunity to “refresh” their memories.

Treasurer

While our Treasury is in good shape, it can always get better! That being said, don't forget our ongoing raffle for the Frank & Charles Hood “SUB TALES” trilogy. These are excellent books with some great stories. All proceeds from the raffle will go to the Sculpin Base Treasury.

As discussed at our last meeting, there will be an audit of the Treasury prior to the November 19 meeting being called to order.

Membership

Welcome to New Member, Bud Huber. Bud, a resident of Topeka, joined USSVI as a LIFE Member and Sculpin Base. Bud qualified onboard USS Pomfret in 1970. Welcome Aboard Bud!

Storekeeper

The Sculpin Base Store has taken some baby steps in growth. We now have Sculpin Base Caps for \$20.00 and we also have some USSVI 2023 calendars for \$8.00. I am currently looking at obtaining a variety of sub re-

lated patches and other items and will be making them available as soon as they are in stock. If there is any sub related item(s) that you may be interested in, please let me know and I will see about getting it.

**Vice Commander
Rick Hutchison**

No column this issue due to surgery recovery. Get well soon Rick.



Chief of the Boat

Lt. George E. Dixon

George Dixon, the *H. L. Hunley's* commander, was a young and athletic man with sandy blond hair. Forensic analysis places Dixon in his mid-twenties. However, his responsibility on the *Hunley* was what would have been expected of an experienced veteran.

As commander, Dixon navigated the submarine, using only a compass bearing and the limited visibility provided by the view ports in the forward conning tower. Dixon controlled the movement of the rudder and the dive planes, which dictated the inclination and level of submersion of the submarine. Ultimately, Lt. Dixon was the crewmember who triggered the *Hunley's* explosive device that would send the USS *Housatonic* to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, a maritime first that changed the landscape of naval warfare world-wide.

During excavation of the interior of the *Hunley*, Dixon's remains were located beneath the forward conning tower, the location where the vessel's commander would have been stationed.

Doug Owsley, forensic expert with the Smithsonian Institution, found in his research that Dixon was North American born, but was not from a Southern state. "Dixon's alignment with the Confederate Army was not based on geographic lines. He was not Southern born and is most likely from the Midwest, but has been away from home a very long time." Standing 5 feet 9 inches tall, Dixon was a man of at least some wealth as indicated by the gold fillings found in his teeth, his diamond studded jewelry and an ornate gold watch he carried in his pocket.

Thus far, Dixon's history can be traced to 1860 when he was a steamboat engineer traveling the Mississippi River between St. Louis and Cincinnati. When the Civil War began, Dixon was in Mobile, Alabama. For the first few years of the war, he became a part of the



Mobile community and even joined the local Masonic lodge. Dixon joined the Mobile Grays, a local police force, and in October of 1861 he enlisted in the Confederate Army and was assigned to the 21st Alabama infantry. In 1862, Dixon's service in the Confederate Army led him to a battle in Shiloh, Tennessee. During that battle, an event occurred that would turn into one of the greatest oral legends in the history of the war.

The legend told the story of a gold coin Dixon was given as a good luck charm by a young girl when he left Mobile to go to war. During the Battle of Shiloh, Dixon was shot. According to legend, the bullet struck the gold coin in Dixon's trousers and saved his life, leaving a deep impression on the coin's surface.

In 2001, during the excavation of the *Hunley*, a \$20 dollar gold piece minted in 1860 was discovered next to the remains of Lt. Dixon. It was deeply indented from the impact of a bullet and inscribed with the following words: Shiloh April 6, 1862 My life preserver G. E. D. Maria Jacobsen, Senior Archaeologist on the *Hunley* project, said "We found a healed gunshot wound in Dixon's left upper thigh, with minute lead fragments embedded in the bone." After his injury at Shiloh, Dixon returned to Mobile to recover. It was most likely during this time that Dixon met William Alexander, a fellow Mason and one of the builders of the *Hunley*. The *Hunley* was at least partially built at Park and Lyons machine shop, where Alexander was employed. The ironwork on the vessel was probably completed there. The *Hunley* had moderate success during test runs in Mobile Bay, some of which Dixon may have manned. With the strategically valuable (Continued on Page 12)



Base Chaplain Lamont "Monte" Schmidt



This is going to be about me and my family.

Recently my wife, Faye, was diagnosed with a stage IV cancer. We don't know which it is yet

but the doctors are trying to determine what it is.

We have had several friends and family members say that they were praying for both of us. Some have said that praying was the least they could do. After hearing that I started thinking about what prayer is.

To many of us it's like an intercom; we press a button and ask for whatever we want and it is delivered. Or we use it call someone in another-room or we just want to talk to.

But prayer is really more like a radio used to communicate with headquarters to receive instructions. You can also inform God of what your needs are. With prayer you are interceding with GOD himself. You are asking God to intervene into someone's life. Heal their body or change the outcome of a situation.

The simple prayer that Jesus taught us in Luke;

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth
as it is heaven.*

Give us our daily bread.

*Forgive us sins as we forgive those who sin
against us.*

*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil.*

*For the kingdom, the power and the glory are
yours. Now and forever*

Amen

If you look at this simple prayer it contains all we need for worship. It starts out by acknowledging who God is, our Father, ruler of the kingdom on earth and heaven. Next we ask that our needs be met, not our wants. Then we ask for forgiveness of our failures conditional on that we forgive those who have wronged us. Then we ask for strength to resist temptation. Then close by ac-

knowledging who God is.

In my opinion prayer is the most that you can do for someone. My prayer is that I can serve all of the members of this base as you need. Also, my prayer is as Faye and I go through the next period of, however long it maybe, that I can be her strength and comforter and we come out of this together. – Monte

Note: Shipmate Monte, Our prayers as a Base go out to Faye, you, and your family. If there is anything we, as your shipmates, can do, please don't hesitate to let us.

Sculpin Base Binnacle List

Please keep the following shipmates and their families in your prayers as they recover:

Get Well Soon Shipmates!

Robert Emery

Faye Schmidt

VC Rick Hutchison



Assorted Flag Facts



MISSOURI STATE FLAG



KANSAS STATE FLAG



OKLAHOMA STATE FLAG

Okay Kids. Put the above objects in the correct order as you, the audience, would see them. The speaker is speaking in Oklahoma. And the correct answer is:



MISSOURI STATE FLAG



KANSAS STATE FLAG



OKLAHOMA STATE FLAG

Okay, here is why. The American Flag is always on the speaker's right. Missouri was the 24th state added to the Union, Kansas the 34th, and Oklahoma the 46th. The sizes should be about the same, with no flag bigger than the American flag. As far as height, no flag (including eagle or spear should be higher than the American flag. So flags to the left of the speaker are in the order of prominence, in this case statehood.



KANSAS STATE FLAG



The above would be correct for one of our meetings, if we were to display the Kansas state flag.

The above rule also applies to courtrooms as the American flag is on the Judge's right and the State flag on their left; and to Churches as many display the American Flag and a Christian Flag. I attended a church in Pennsylvania where the flags were in the back of the church. The flags are then considered part of the audience. In this case, the American flag is on the speaker's left and all other on the speaker's right.

Flags on staffs cannot be lowered to "half-staff". We may have covered this before, but here it is again. Placing a black ribbon or banner about the same width of a stripe and about the same length as the flag on top of the flag signifies that flag as being at half-staff (or half-mast for us Sailors).

I see wrong flag placements all the time in TV shows and movies. The set directors don't do their homework.





Welcome
New
Members

Welcome Bud Huber. Bud, a resident of Topeka, joined USSVI as a LIFE Member and Sculpin Base. Bud qualified onboard USS Pomfret in 1970. Welcome Aboard Bud!

**Next Base Meeting is
Saturday, November 19th.**

**American Legion Post 36
404 Delaware St.
Oskaloosa, KS**

**Lunch (if desired) will be
by menu at Double D's
Bar and Grill at about
1130. Double D's is
located on the
Square in Oskaloosa
(next to the Post Office)**

**If you park at the Post,
you can enter DD's via the
back door.**

**Meeting to follow at the
Post at 1300.**

**Come have Chow with
some shipmates.**

**Spouses - Welcome
and Encouraged**

**Can you host a meeting in your area?
Our area is large and to be fair to all
members we agreed to have a
"travelling base". This means that we
move our meeting to different cities
and towns in our membership area.**

**Unlike other Veterans groups that
might own a building, the USSVI does
not own property (w/e of Groton). We
meet at restaurants, VFW's, American
Legions, etc.. Membership is encour-
aged in these organizations. Can you
host a meeting in your area? If so, let
one of the Officers know.**

Every time I hear a politician or an
athlete talk about making
sacrifices...



I just shake my head and smile that one
smile I save for special occasions



National Constitution and Bylaws Information Series

One of the items that is on the National Newsletter awards checklist is information on the USSVI Constitution and Bylaws. I would encourage each of you to at least take a look at these at <https://www.ussvi.org/organization-documents>

Article IX of our National USSVI Constitution and Bylaws describes the structure of our organization.

Section 1 describes the Regional structure. Currently there are 4 Regions, Western, Central, North Eastern, and South Eastern. Of course Sculpin Base is in the Central Region.

Each Region is governed by a duly elected or appointed Regional Director. Our Director is Wyvel Thomas Williams, III (Tom) of the Brazos Valley Base in Texas.

The Regions are further divided into Districts. Our Central Region is divided into 6 Districts. Districts are broken down into states or parts of states. Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma compose Central District One (CD1). Each District has a District Commander (DC). CD1 is governed by Ellis Dale Moses (hey, that's me!)

The duties of the DC include approving Base Bylaws and amendments; organization of new Bases within the District; and providing guidance to Base Commanders and personnel.

DCs are elected on odd-numbered years and serve a two-year term. The Regional Director can appoint a fill-in as required.

Article X discusses Base Charters. Section One states: "Upon signed approval of the Bylaws by the appropriate District Commander and endorsement by the Regional Director,

each Base shall be issued a Charter from the Organization. The Organization's Commander and Secretary, who shall affix the Organization's Seal thereto, shall sign the Charter.

Section 2 "Issuance of the Charter signifies authorization to carry out the purpose of the Organization under the name United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. and authorizes the use of the National Emblem in carrying out that Purpose. However, no Base may act as an agent for USSVI nor obligate, either financially or legally, the National Organization without first obtaining approval from the Board of Directors."

Section 3. "Any Base that fails to comply with the Organization's Constitution and Bylaws will have thirty (30) days after receipt of written notification from the Organization's Secretary to correct the deficiency or cause their Charter to be revoked."

I encourage all members to at least periodically look at the USSVI Constitution and Bylaws and also the Base Bylaws. Officers of the Base should review them more often. Also if you are every interested in serving as an Officer within the Base, District, Region, or National level, complete the Base Commander's Qual Card. It guides you through the National Bylaws. I know, the term "Qual Card" means work, but it also means "knowledge"; and you won't ever get your dungarees dirty!

Okay, class dismissed, Liberty is down.



(From Page 7)Fort Sumter just off shore, Charleston, the largest port in the South, quickly became the focal point of a Union blockade. As the war progressed, the blockade on Charleston Harbor became more fortified, allowing less and less runners through.

In 1863, news from Mobile of the successful trial runs of the *Hunley* made its way to Charleston. With the hopes this new experimental weapon might help break the Union blockade, the *Hunley* was sent by train to Charleston and arrived on an early August morning in 1863. Initially, the *Hunley* was unsuccessful. During trial runs in Charleston in August and October 1863, 13 men lost their lives on the *Hunley*, one such trial even claimed the life of Horace *Hunley*, the submarine's namesake. Confident in the potential of the submarine as a combat vessel when navigated correctly, Dixon convinced General Beauregard to give the *Hunley* another chance with him at the helm. Dixon raised a volunteer crew, and began a series of test missions to prepare for his attack. Having confidence in his crew, Dixon waited for the sea to cooperate before he set out to attack the *Housatonic*. In January 1864, Dixon expressed his frustration in a letter to a friend in Mobile. "But there is one thing very evident," he wrote, "and that is to catch the Atlantic Ocean smooth during the winter months is considerable of an undertaking and one that I never wish to undertake again." Dixon would soon have such a rare moment. On February 17, 1864 he seized the opportunity the sea provided. That night, the vessel he had so much faith in became the first successful combat submarine in world history. Lt. Dixon was well known in the Confederate Army. He was the only *Hunley* crewmember who left no question behind about his identity and some of the circumstances of his life. Yet his birthplace has remained unknown. Linda Abrams, a forensic genealogist, believes that one day she will know more about the mysterious Dixon. "I will find him. I have no doubt about that. We may not know where he was from, but a letter I discovered just weeks before he is scheduled to be buried has left us no doubt about his personality. He was both a sentimental and courageous man," Abrams said. In that letter, Dixon wrote

that his crew of submarine pioneers were, "The best I think I ever seen." The following is a transcription of the letter Dixon wrote 17 days before he lost his life at sea on the *Hunley*: Mr. Henry Willey Mobile, Ala.

Dear Friend Henry,

I wrote you about one month ago, and as yet have not received an answer and thinking that probably you had not received my letter I will try you with another. And as I would like to know you are getting along in the world. And whether this new conscription law is going to affect you or not and if it is can I do any thing for you if so why, let me know. I suppose that you think strange that I have not done any thing here yet, but if I could tell you all of the circumstances that have occurred since I came here you would not think strange of my not having done any execution as yet. But it would take considerable paper and time to relate them to you at present so I will postpone relating them until I see you. But there is one thing very evident and that is to catch the Atlantic Ocean smooth during the winter months is considerable of an undertaking and one that I never wish to undertake again. Especially when all parties interested at sitting at home and wondering and criticizing all of my actions and saying why don't he do something. if I have not done any thing "God Knows" it is not because I have not worked hard enough to do some thing. And I shall keep trying until I do some thing. I have been out-side several times but for various reasons I have not yet met with success. I am out-side every night in a small boat so that there is not a possible for any good night to pass with out my being able to take advantage of it. I have my boat lying between Sullivan's and Long Islands and think that when the night does come that I will surprise the Yankees completely. The Fleet offshore have drawings of the sub-marine and of course they have taken all precautions that it is possible for Yankee ingenuity to invent, but I hope to Flank them yet.

I am living on a soldier's rations here and have been for the last six weeks and find that is the hardest fare that I have ever had. I have been frequently five days without meat and had to live on corn meal and rice for breakfast mush. Dinner rice and corn bread, for supper mush, if I don't
(Continued on next page)



get fat it will not be because I have not been "Corn fed." I have got very good quarters in sight of all of the Yankee and Confederate Batteries and can sit on the porch and see all of the guns that are fired. At present they are hammering away at Sumpter but not doing so much damage so far. The report of their guns shake every window in the house so bad that you would imagine that they would break.

After all of the shells that they threw into the city there has been comparatively little damage done although in the Shell District the houses are full of holes made by the shells and for glass there is scarcely a whole pane to be found in the lower part of the city. I have got a splendid crew of men the best I think I ever seen. The government has been very kind to me, they have given me every thing that I have ask for. King has gone home and can tell you considerable when you see him. Give my regards to all engineering friends. Hoping to hear from you soon. I remain yours as ever (Direct to Charleston) Geo. E. Dixon.

Base Historians Tina & Al Anguish

I'm sure any vet of fast attack subs during Cold War may have known some those killed or captured. Spooks when not on a sub flew recon missions, flew off carriers during Vietnam War and served on surface spy ships. Here are some interesting "Spook" stories:

The USS Liberty incident was an attack on a United States Navy technical research ship (spy ship), USS Liberty, by Israeli Air Force jet fighter aircraft and Israeli Navy motor torpedo boats, on 8 June 1967, during the Six-Day War. The combined air and sea attack killed 34 crew members (naval officers, seamen, two marines, and one civilian NSA employee), wounded 171 crew members, and severely damaged the ship. At the time, the ship was in international waters north of the Sinai Peninsula, about 25.5 nmi

(29.3 mi) northwest from the Egyptian city of Arish

Israel apologized for the attack, saying that the USS Liberty had been attacked in error after being mistaken for an Egyptian ship. Both the Israeli and U.S. governments conducted inquiries and issued reports that concluded the attack was a mistake due to Israeli confusion about the ship's identity. Others, including survivors of the attack, have rejected these conclusions and maintain that the attack was deliberate.

In May 1968, the Israeli government paid US\$3.32 million (equivalent to US\$25.9 million in 2021) to the U.S. government in compensation for the families of the 34 men killed in the attack. In March 1969, Israel paid a further \$3.57 million (\$26.4 million in 2021) to the men who had been wounded. In December 1980, it agreed to pay \$6 million (\$19.7 million in 2021) as the final settlement for material damage to Liberty itself plus 13 years of interest.[9]

1968 January 23 USS Pueblo captured On January 23, 1968, the USS Pueblo, a Navy intelligence vessel, is engaged in a routine surveillance of the North Korean coast when it is intercepted by North Korean patrol boats. According to U.S. reports, the Pueblo was in international waters almost 16 miles from shore, but the North Koreans turned their guns on the lightly armed vessel and demanded its surrender. The Americans attempted to escape, and the North Koreans opened fire, wounding the commander and two others. With capture inevitable, the Americans stalled for time, destroying the classified information aboard while taking further fire. Several more crew members were wounded. Finally, the Pueblo was boarded and taken to Wonson. There, the 83-man crew was bound and blindfolded and transported to Pyongyang, where they were charged with spying within North Korea's 12-mile territorial limit and imprisoned. It was the biggest crisis in two years of increased tension and minor skirmishes between the



United States and North Korea. The United States maintained that the Pueblo had been in international waters and demanded the release of the captive sailors. With the Tet Offensive raging 2,000 miles to the south in Vietnam, President Lyndon Johnson ordered no direct retaliation, but the United States began a military buildup in the area. At first the captured crew of the Pueblo resisted demands they sign false confessions, famously raising their middle fingers at the camera and telling the North Koreans it was the “Hawaiian good-luck sign.” Once the North Koreans learned the truth, they punished the prisoners with beatings, cold temperatures and sleep deprivation, according to a lawsuit some of the Pueblo’s crew would later file against the North Korean government. Eventually North Korean authorities coerced a confession and apology out of Pueblo commander Bucher, in which he stated, “I will never again be a party to any disgraceful act of aggression of this type.” The rest of the crew also signed a confession under threat of torture. The prisoners were then taken to a second compound in the countryside near Pyongyang, where they were forced to study propaganda materials and beaten for straying from the compound’s strict rules. In August, the North Koreans staged a phony news conference in which the prisoners were to praise their humane treatment, but the Americans thwarted the Koreans by inserting innuendoes and sarcastic language into their statements. Some prisoners also rebelled in photo shoots by casually sticking out their middle finger; a gesture that their captors didn’t understand. Later, the North Koreans caught on and beat the Americans for a week. On December 23, 1968, exactly 11 months after the Pueblo’s capture, U.S. and North Korean negotiators reached a settlement to resolve the crisis. Under the settlement’s terms, the United States admitted the ship’s intrusion into North Korean territory, apologized for the action, and pledged to cease any future such action. That day, the surviving

82 crewmen walked one by one across the “Bridge of No Return” at Panmunjon to freedom in South Korea. They were hailed as heroes and returned home to the United States in time for Christmas.

Incidents between North Korea and the United States continued in 1969, and in April 1969 a North Korean MiG fighter shot down a U.S. Navy intelligence aircraft, killing all 31 men aboard. In 1970, quiet returned to the demilitarized zone.

1969 EC-121 shootdown incident: On 15 April 1969, a United States Navy Lockheed EC-121M Warning Star of Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron One (VQ-1) on a reconnaissance mission was shot down by a North Korean MiG-21 aircraft over the Sea of Japan. The plane crashed 90 nautical miles (167 km) off the North Korean coast and all 31 Americans (30 sailors and 1 Marine) on board were killed, which constitutes the largest single loss of U.S. aircrew during the Cold War era

The plane was an adaptation of a Lockheed Super Constellation and was fitted with a fuselage radar, so the primary tasks were to act as a long-range patrol, conduct electronic surveillance, and act as a warning device.

The Nixon administration did not retaliate against North Korea apart from staging a naval demonstration in the Sea of Japan a few days later, which was quickly removed. It resumed the reconnaissance flights within a week to demonstrate that it would not be intimidated by the action while at the same time avoiding a confrontation.



Well, no member volunteered to be “Member-in-the-Spotlight” and have some format to introduce themselves to other Base members. So now, I, your overworked editor (ha) has to fill this spot with something. What can I think of...oh, a sea-story.

Guys, this is a no-shitter. (okay, that’s a start). Let me think, it was a while back and I’ll change names to protect the guilty.

The Will Rogers (SSBN-659) operated in Rota, Spain back in the seventies. I was a member of the Blue Crew and being Rota it was port and starboard duty while in port.

Somehow, the boat was offered at a low cost a overnight trip to Torremolinos Spain. This meant you had to find someone to take your duty and somehow I got to go. I don’t remember the cost, but it had to be low for a cheapskate like me.

So we hopped on a tour bus, about 30 of us including about 10 nukes and the XO. The ride seemed like forever, but I just Google it and it says about 3 hours, but it was on a bus, so maybe a little longer.

The bus stopped at some place near Gibraltar at a small road-side café for a pit-stop. We bought several bottles of wine to take back on the bus and by the time we got to Torremolinos, we were feeling right.

We checked into our rooms and went to checkout the beach and enjoy the “scenery”. Eventually, we went back to the hotel and found new “scenery” at the pool. Here’s were we got a little rowdy.

We were all jumping into the pool from a statue of who knows who and enjoying the pool. A fellow nuke, who I’ll just name as ‘Zeke’ was busy befriending these two German girls that were basking in the sun. Soon they were applying suntan lotion while we observed while pretending not to watch.

After a while we kept swimming and enjoying the pool, they flipped over to their bellies and untied their tops. Zeke still was putting his best moves on them. Soon he was applying lotion to their backs (the Animal!).

As Zeke was applying lotion he said “Hey guys look at this.” and as we looked he tickled one of the girls and her reflexes cause her to lift-up long enough to get a great shot. Zeke really was a great shipmate.

We spent the rest of the evening drinking and splashing around as young sailors do.

The next morning, I guess mid-morning, we crawled back on the bus. Someone had snuck more alcohol aboard and we were passing the bottle around. Soon we were singing songs that only are sung under the influence; like “hey, Lottie, Lottie Lo”, with verses made-up as we went along about different departments, and even one about the XO. He just smiled.

We made a well desired and needed pit-stop I think at the same place to get some food and of course more booze. Not wine this time, but something harder. Wow! Was I feeling good! Never really recovered from the night before, just continued the buzz.

We were really rowdy the rest of the way back, but the XO did not say anything, he just let us have our fun, knowing we’d all be back doing our jobs tomorrow, but with headaches.

We finally made it “home” and the evening meal never tasted better. Some discussed going over to the club, but I don’t think anyone made it further than a shower and a rack.

The next day, we were back doing what we always did to fix the boat and get her ready for sea, all while telling stories of our adventures “on the beach”.

Lessons learned: Hell, I can’t remember. Oh yeah, sent me some bios so I can use them.
- Moe(SS)



Worth reading again - EMPORIA, KANSAS

FOUNDING CITY OF VETERANS DAY

Whereas in 1953, Alvin J. King of Emporia, Kansas, proposed that Armistice Day be changed to Veterans Day to recognize and honor all veterans from all wars and conflicts;

Whereas in 1953, Veterans Day was first organized and celebrated in Emporia, Kansas; Whereas although Alvin King was only 15 years old when the United States went to war in 1917 and never served in the Armed Forces, he had a deep respect for veterans;

Whereas Alvin King's stepson, John Cooper, whom he had raised, was killed in action in Belgium during World War II while serving with Rifle Company B, 137th Infantry Regiment;

Whereas after World War II, Alvin King developed friendships with the surviving members of Rifle Company B, 137th Infantry Regiment;

Whereas in the early 1950s, Alvin King suggested either creating a special day to honor all veterans or adapting Armistice Day so that it was dedicated to all veterans since, at that time, Armistice Day honored the veterans of World War I;

Whereas by 1953, the community of Emporia, Kansas, had raised enough money to send Alvin King and his wife, Gertrude, to Washington, D.C. to garner support for an official veterans day;

Whereas Alvin King had a friend and supporter in Representative Ed Rees of Emporia, Kansas, who was strongly in favor of King's idea and said "it would give the holiday a new meaning and more widespread patriotic observance";

Whereas on June 1, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who was raised in Kansas, signed into law the Act proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day (Public Law 380 of the 83rd Congress);

Whereas on October 8, 1954, President Eisenhower issued a presidential proclamation concerning Veterans Day in 1954 in which he stated, "On that day let us solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom, and let us re-consecrate ourselves to the task of promoting an enduring peace so that their efforts shall not have been in vain"; and

Whereas the first nationwide observance of Veterans Day was on November 11, 1954: Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress hereby—

- (1) encourages Americans to demonstrate their support for veterans on Veterans Day by treating that day as a special day of remembrance;
- (2) declares Emporia, Kansas, to be the founding city of Veterans Day;
- (3) recognizes Alvin J. King, of Emporia, Kansas, as the founder of Veterans Day; and
- (4) (4) recognizes that Representative Ed Rees, of Emporia, Kansas, was instrumental in the efforts to enact into law the observance of Veterans Day. Agreed to October 31, 2003. - (Part 117 STAT 2958)

Editor's Note: During the late 1980's and early 1990's I was a member of Post 5 of the American Legion and served with many of the WWII guys that were behind this change, including Alvin King's brother. I was told back then, the Emporia School Board wanted to hold school on November 11th but the American Legion and VFW members of the city protested. I remember my kids have Veteran's Day off so they could attend the parade in Emporia. The year I was Commander of the Legion, I was the MC at Soden's Grove after the Parade. What an honor. The Memorial at Soden's Grove would be a great place for the Sculpin Base to place a bench honoring the Lost Boats. - Just a thought, Moe



GEDUNK from the Net

Major Defects Found On South Korea's Type 214 Submarine Fleet	Article
Ex-USS Clamagore Departs Patriots Point to be demilitarized, recycled	Article
Barrow: BAE Systems to recruit 1,200 workers for MoD submarine plans	Article
Australia Should Work Closely With U.S. to Master Nuclear Sub Building	Article
New Images Reveal Russia's 'Missing' Submarine Belgorod In Arctic	Article
Navy engineer accused of trading nuclear submarine secrets pleads guilty	Article
US Navy nuclear submarine surfaces at Guam base	Article
USS Connecticut hit an underwater mountain, investigation finds	Article
Next-generation attack subs will be designed with maintenance in mind	Article
US Navy wants to chop six months off build time of Columbia-class boats	Article
Saab Starts Deliveries Of New Lightweight Torpedo To Sweden	Article
The last salute: 3 volleys	Article
"Taps": The History of the Bugle Call	Article
Master Chief's Tour of Arlington National Cemetery	Article

Got Links or pictures you want to share with the Sculpin Base?

Send them to Moe at donutdad53@gmail.com

I am proud to have the (SS) designation; and so are you, or you would not be a USSVI member. We'd like very much for you to join in our meetings and assist us in what is stated in our Creed on Page one. If you haven't the Creed in a while, please take a few minutes to read and reflect. You did something only those who volunteer did. You may not feel like it, but you are a "special force". We, together with our "Brothers of the Phin", are heroes of the "Cold War". Let us educate our youth and those interested in Submarines, not only in our duties, but the duties of our fellow Veterans, and the greatness of these United States of America.

God Bless and have a great Veterans Day. You earned it.





Shipmates leaving on Eternal Patrol this Quarter

Honoring the Sculpin Base Members

and our Sister Bases in Kansas; the Dorado Base and the Topeka-Jefferson City Base.

Please kept all of your Past Shipmates and their families in your Prayers.

