



December 2020

STEEL VALLEY DOLPHINS
USSVI REQUIUN BASE NEWSLETTER



The USSVI Requin Base supports the National Creed

“To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of 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.”

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Meeting Information

Meetings are held on the second Saturday of the month, normally at the Baden PA American Legion. Quarterly meetings are held around our membership area.

Our next meeting will be

January 09, 2021

At the Baden American Legion

Base Location

American Legion

271 State St

Baden PA 15005



MAKE A DIFFERENCE, ATTEND A MEETING!

Our Website

For additional information about what is happening at **YOUR** base, go to

<https://www.requinbase.org/>

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Binnacle List



Eternal Patrol



Lois Stewart
12 / 20 / 2020
(Wife of John Stewart)

Boats Lost



USS Capelin (SS-289) Lost on 12/2/1943 with the loss of 76 men. She was on her 1st war patrol, but her exact location and cause of loss remain a mystery. She may have been lost to mines or an operational casualty.

USS Sealion (SS-195) Lost on 12/10/1941 with the loss of 5 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. The destruction of the Navy Yard made repairs impossible, and Sealion was ordered destroyed. All salvageable equipment was taken off, depth charges were placed inside, and the explosives were set off to prevent her from being made useful to the enemy.

USS F-1 (SS-20) Lost on 12/17/1917 with the loss of 19 officers and men when it was sunk after collision with the USS F-3 (Pickrel) (SS-22) off San Clemente, CA. While maneuvering in exercises at sea, F-1 and F-3 collided, the former sinking in 10 seconds, her port side torn forward of the engine room. 19 of her men were lost, while 3 others were rescued by the submarines with whom she was operating.

USS S-4 (SS-109) Lost on 12/17/1927 with the loss of 40 officers and men when it was sunk after being rammed by USCG Paulding. Salvaged in 1928 and re-commissioned.

Birthdays

Member		Spouse		Anniversaries	
Algee, John	12/31/53	Nicole La Pietro Cowher	01/06	Willard & Margret Ashmore	1/16
Clark, Robert	01/14/52	Michael Deichler	01/14	Carl & Carol Benson	1/20
Coker, Jess	01/13/76	Barbara Fraina	01/09	Bob & Kim Bittner	1/06
Iden, Larry	01/05/43	Joan Hughes	01/08	Eric & Margie Bookmiller	1/19
Iliff, Jefferey	01/09/68	Julie May	01/31	Dave & Diane Howton	1/27
Kielar, Bill	01/16/30	Kelly McKinney	01/05	Carl & Gosia Humes	1/18
Lowry, E.	01/24/28	Sandra Morgan	01/10	Art & Rita Ann Kalimon	1/20
Markel, Mike	01/15/41	Tina Siege	01/15	Richard & Karen Keys	1/29
Myers, Bob	01/21/53	Cynthia Weaver	01/07	Fred & Patricia Nelson	1/26
Moore, Bob	01/08/48			John & Susan Sutherin, Jr	1/08
Naso, Angelo	01/29/42				
Nelson, Fred	01/29/44				
Phelan, James	01/20/38				
Phelps, Dan	01/06/62				
Schmidt, Bob	01/15/61				
Siege, Brian	01/23/66				
Smith, Aubrey	01/20/46				
Stewart, John	01/21/42				
Wassingerberg, Paul	01/27/34				
Wise, Herb	01/14/39				

Commanders Corner

It was with great sadness that we had to cancel our December Base Meeting and Holiday get together. The good Lord was looking over us because the very next day our Governor CLOSED all bars and clubs. The Legion shut down and we would have scrambled to notify everyone not to travel to the meeting. We will enjoy the holiday season with close family and enjoy it as much as we can. This has been one lousy year and I hope next year will be one of our greatest for having our meetings and base activities. Both Edie and I and your Executive Board wish everyone a great holiday season –

Merry Christmas – Happy Hanukkah and a Happy New Year!

The dues season has arrived and it's wonderful to make contact with everyone! As of today (12/16) there are 58 members who have not sent in their dues for 2021. Please check to see if you already sent in your check and if you find out that you haven't, please send asap. The past years at this time, we had less than 10 members who were close to the DINK list. We were late sending out the notices because the calendars were late arriving, that was thru no fault of the base. If anyone has financial problems, please let me know and your dues situation will be worked out. E-mail me at hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com

We will be working on our schedule for next year's base meetings and activities in the next few weeks. If anyone has any questions or concerns about scheduling additional events, reach out to me and let me know!

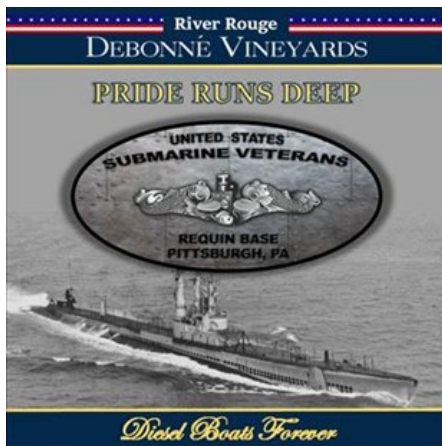
The raffle tickets that we purchased from the Baden's American Legion on the Pa lottery had no winners – we tried.

I was informed that our National Treasurer, Paul Heisel has come down with the virus. He had an old friend in town, and he offered him a place to stay. As luck has it, three (3) days later, Paul came down with the virus. So watch yourself and always take an extra step to stay safe – WEAR A MASK, SOCIAL DISTANCEING AND WASH YOUR HANDS FOR 30 SECONDS along with using HAND SANTIZER

I have not heard of anyone from the base coming down with the virus, so we all must be doing something right. Don't forget to keep everyone in your thoughts.

Our sale of USSVI calendars has gone extremely well. We had only one outside veteran's organization cancel their order. As of today, there are ten (10) calendars left. If anyone wants extra's please let me know – when they are gone, they will be gone – no more to be had.

Our wine fund raiser for the USS IDAHO has gone over the top.



The majority of the orders have been picked up and or delivered. Over the course of the next couple of days, the last two orders will be in the hands of the shipmates for the holidays. I will give a complete report in the January newsletter (SVD). If anyone wants any of the wine, I have some bottles available,

Riesling, Red Blend, River Rouge and Chardonnay. I find that our shipmates enjoyed them so much that they ordered more for Holiday presents.

Commanders Corner Continued

We loved the wine labels so much we sent the Captain, Exec, and COB of the Idaho and Captain Deichler, of the Pittsburgh, a bottle for the holidays.



This is what the captain wrote back to me – Mr. Dietrich –

Thank you so much for the thoughtful (and inspiring) bottle of wine. What a label! My wife, Sarah, and I will save that bottle for a special occasion – then celebrate a toast to our brothers at sea and veterans, who forged our proud undersea legacy! Until then – Merry Christmas to you and the REQUIN BASE SUB VETS. On behalf of IDAHO (SSN-799), Thank you! for your sponsorship of our growing crew.

Thanks for shipmate Lawton Gains who traveled from Massachusetts to Groton and delivered them to the Cob for distribution.

Congratulations to Captain Deichler on his promotion.



Chaplin's Column

No Report

Store Keepers Report

No Report

Meeting Minutes

December, 2020
Pittsburgh, PA

No meeting was held due to Covid-19 restrictions

Membership

Regular Members ###

Associate Members ###

Holland Club Members ###

WWII Members ###

NEW MEMBERS

No new members

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 restrictions there is nothing to report.

Upcoming Events

We are hoping to have a regular meeting on 01 / 09/ 2021 if the current Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.

12/01/1943

USS Bonefish (SS 223) sinks Japanese transport Nichiryō Maru in the Celebes Sea while USS Pargo (SS 264) sinks the Japanese transport Shoko Maru north of Ulithi. Also on this date, USS Peto (SS 265) sinks Japanese transport Tōnei Maru.

12/02/1944

USS Sea Devil (SS 400) attacks a Japanese convoy in the East China Sea and sinks merchant tanker Aki-gawa Maru and passenger-cargo ship Hawaii Maru, while USS Gunnel (SS 253) evacuates 11 rescued aviators from Palawan, Philippines and turns over all available stores to Filipino forces ashore.

12/03/1943

USS Tinosa (SS 283) sinks the Palau-bound Japanese fleet tanker Azuma Maru northwest of Sonsorol.

12/04/1944

USS Flasher (SS 249) sinks Japanese destroyer Kishinami and damages a merchant ship in the South China Sea. Flasher is the only U.S. submarine to sink more than 100,000 tons of enemy shipping in World War II.

12/05/1943

USS Narwhal (SS 167) embarks nine evacuees at Alubijid, Mascalari Bay and then sinks Japanese cargo ship Himeno Maru off Camiguin Island.

12/05/1944

USS Hake (SS 256) evacuates downed aviators and turns over all supplies that can be spared to Filipino guerilla forces ashore at Libertad, Panay, Philippines.

12/08/1943

USS Sawfish (SS 276) sinks Japanese transport Sansei Maru southeast of Chi Chi Jima. Also on this date, TBFs sink Rabaul-bound fishing boats No. 3 Yusho Maru, No.7 Fukuri Maru, No.2 Takatori Maru, and No.1 Hoko Maru.

12/09/1941

USS Swordfish (SS 193) makes initial U.S. submarine attack on Japanese ship, torpedoing a ship 150 miles west of Manila. Her claim of sinking, though, is not confirmed in enemy records.

12/10/1982

The nuclear powered USS Ohio (SSBN 726), first Trident-Class submarine, returns from its first deterrent patrol.

12/11/1944

USS Gar (SS 206) lands 35 tons of supplies at Darigayos Inlet on the west coast of Luzon and picks up secret intelligence documents. Also on this date, USS Sea Owl (SS 405) sinks Japanese auxiliary submarine chaser Cha 76 in the East China Sea.

12/13/1943

USS Sailfish (SS 192) sinks Japanese cargo ship Totai Maru east of Tokara Strait while PBY aircraft sink Tokiwa Maru in the Bismarck Sea.

12/15/1944

USS Hawkbill (SS 366) sinks the Japanese destroyer Momo west of Luzon.

12/16/1944

USS Swordfish (SS 193) attacks a Japanese convoy south of Hainan Island and sinks Japanese army transport Atsutasan Maru.

12/17/1942

USS Grouper (SS 214) sinks the Japanese army passenger cargo ship Bandoeng Maru about 15 miles northwest of Cape Henpan, Buka Island, Solomons and survives the counterattack by submarine chaser Ch 29.

12/18/1943

USS Aspro (SS 309) attacks a Japanese convoy in Sakishima Gunto, damaging fleet tankers Sarawak Maru and Tenei Maru, and escapes counter attacks by destroyer Shoikaze. Meanwhile, USS Grayback (SS 208) sinks Japanese freighter Gyokurei Maru east-northeast of Naha, Okinawa and escapes counter attacks by destroyer Numakaze.

12/19/1943

USS Grayback (SS 208) sinks the Japanese destroyer Numakaze 50 miles east-northeast of Naha, Okinawa.

12/19/1944

USS Redfish (SS 395) sinks the Japanese carrier Unryu 200 nautical miles southeast of Shanghai, China. In the course of this engagement, Redfish is damaged and terminates her patrol early.

12/21/1942

USS Seadragon (SS 194) sinks Japanese submarine I-4 between New Britain and New Ireland while I-4 is engaged in a resupply mission to Guadalcanal.

12/22/1942

On board USS Silversides (SS 236), Pharmacists Mate 1st Class Thomas A. Moore performs an emergency appendectomy on Fireman 3rd Class George M. Platter while the submarine is submerged and on war patrol in the Solomon Islands. Platter returned to duty within a few days of the operation.

12/23/1944

USS Blenny (SS 324), despite an escort vessel close by, sinks the Japanese merchant tanker Kenzui Maru off San Fernando, Luzon, Philippines.

12/25/1944

USS Barbero (SS 317) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks transport Junpo Maru.

12/27/1943

USS Flying Fish (SS 229) sinks the Japanese fleet tanker Kyuei Maru in the South China Sea west of Luzon Strait. Also on this date, USS Ray (SS 271) sinks the Japanese fleet tanker Kyoko Maru (ex-Dutch Semiramis) west of the Celebes.

12/29/1943

USS Silversides (SS 236) sinks the Japanese transport Tenposan Maru, the army cargo ship Shichisei Maru, and the freighter Ryuto Maru while also damaging the army cargo ship Bichu Maru off Palau.

12/30/1942

USS Greenling (SS 213) attacks a Japanese convoy 180 miles northeast of Manus, Admiralty Islands and sinks Army cargo ship Hiteru Maru and damages cargo ship Ryufuku Maru while USS Thresher (SS 200) sinks the Japanese freighter Haichan Maru west of Mata Siri Island, off the southern tip of Borneo.

12/30/1943

USS Bluefish (SS 222) sinks Japanese oiler Ichiyu Maru in the Java Sea.

12/30/1944

USS Razorback (SS 394) attacks a Japanese convoy going from Manila to Takao, about 60 miles southeast of Formosa, and sinks the destroyer Kuretake in the Bashi Channel. The Japanese cargo ships Brazil Maru and Oi Maru are also damaged during this attack.

12/30/1959

The first fleet ballistic missile submarine, USS George Washington (SSBN 598), is commissioned.

How to simulate submarine life at home.

1. Sleep on the shelf in your closet. Replace the closet door with a curtain. Every 2 hours after you go to sleep, have someone whip open the curtain, shine a flashlight in your eyes, and mumble "Sorry, wrong rack", or "Sign this!"
2. Don't eat any food that you don't get out of a can or have to add water to.
3. Spend as much time as possible indoors and avoid sunlight. Hang out in such areas as dark theaters, windowless buildings, closets, etc.
4. Renovate your bathroom. Build a wall across the middle of your bathtub and move the shower head down to chest level. When you take showers, make sure you shut off the water while soaping. Squeegee and wipe down the stall when done.
5. Repeat back everything anyone says to you. Repeat back everything anyone says to you.
6. Sit in front of your TV set, with the antenna disconnected and watch for 6 hours. Report any unusual static patterns.
7. Put lube oil in your humidifier instead of water and set it to "High".
8. Don't watch T.V. Instead setup a 16mm projector and only watch movies that you don't like.
9. Don't do your wash at home. Pick the most crowded laundromat you can find.
10. Announce "Commence Snorkling!" Setup your lawnmower in your living room and run for at least 1 hour. Periodically hold your nose and mouth shut and try to blow out your eardrums.
11. Have the paperboy give you a haircut.
12. Get a clipboard, paper, and leaky black ink pen, then take hourly readings on your electric and gas meters.
13. Sleep with your dirty laundry at your feet.
14. Invite guests, but don't have enough food for them.
15. Get some broken exercise equipment and mount it to the floor in your kitchen.
16. Store up all garbage for a week in your bathtub. Compact and dispose of once a week.
17. Wake up every night at midnight and have a peanut butter and jelly sandwich on stale bread.
(Optional: Breakout a #10 can of ravioli or cold soup)
18. Make up your family menu a week ahead of time without looking in your food cabinets or refrigerator.
19. Set your alarm clock to go off at random times during the night. When it goes off Announce 'fire in the garage!' Jump out of bed and get dressed as fast as you can. Run into your garage and break out the garden hose. Since there really wasn't a fire and everyone is up anyway have the kids clean the house.
20. Once a month take every major appliance completely apart and then put them back together (just in case they were about to break).

21. Use 18 scoops of coffee per pot and allow it to sit for 5 or 6 hours before drinking.
22. Invite at least 85 people you don't really like to come and visit for a couple of months.
23. Store your eggs in your garage for two months and then cook a dozen each morning.
24. Have a fluorescent lamp installed on the bottom of your coffee table and lie under it to read books.
25. Check your refrigerator compressor for "sound shorts".
26. Put a complicated lock on your basement door and wear the key on a lanyard around your neck.
27. Lockwire the lugnuts on your car.
28. When making cakes, prop up one side of the pan while it is baking. Then spread icing really thick on one side to level off the top.
29. Every so often, yell "Emergency Deep!" or "Torpedo in the Water!" , run into the kitchen, sweep all pots/pans/dishes off of the counter onto the floor.
30. Put on the headphones from your stereo (don't plug them in). Go and stand in front of your stove. Say (to nobody in particular) "Stove manned and ready". Stand there for 3 or 4 hours. Say (once again to nobody in particular) "Stove Secured". Roll up the headphone cord and put them away.
31. Make the kids learn the location and operation of every light switch, outlet, circuit breaker, valve, appliance, fire extinguisher etc.. Don't let them watch any TV/movies until they can recite same from memory. *
32. After 60 days or so; go load up the family in a taxi, go out to the worst part of town (preferably where English is a second language), and have dinner at the most run down bar or restaurant available. *
33. Every few years cut a hole in your roof, hire a some workers to remove all furniture, appliances, electrical wiring, pipes etc. to a storage warehouse. Go live in the neighbors garage for a year or so then put it all back. *
34. Buy all food in cases and line the floor with them.
35. Spend 3 or 4 hours waxing your floors to perfection. Then, just before they dry, invite the whole neighborhood over to walk across them. Then do it again.
36. Stand on your roof once every four days for six hours in the winter and don't let anyone in your house.
37. Use fresh milk for only two days after each port visit.
38. Buy 50 cases of toilet paper and lock up all but two rolls. Ensure one of these two rolls is wet at all times.
39. Post the Uniform Code of Military Justice on the wall across from your toilet. Highlight the parts that begin: "penetration however slight..."
40. Install a Furnace and Air Conditioner that blows directly on you while you are sleeping. Have the controls so they will cycle to hot and cold in a matter of seconds.
41. Install a multi-channel entertainment system over your bed that doesn't work.
42. Hookup your air compressor to the sewer line to the house and blow a shit geyser ten feet in the air.

Come inside and tell your wife "calmly" I forgot to shut the valve and have her clean it up.

43. Start every story with "This is no-shit".