



The 7MC

A Publication of
Wahoo Base USSVI
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Our Creed

“To perpetuate the memory of our 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 the greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its constitution”.

Commander's Corner

Welcome to the Commander's Corner. The last meeting was great. We had more people come to the meeting. We had 2 more people in attendance last meeting . I really see some hope of the base staying alive now. I am trying to get more local membership and getting more people to come to the Wahoo Base meetings and more USSVI members. To do this I will be posting to Face Book in some of the other submarine pages for recruitment. If anybody has any other ideas please let me know. I have some other things I am working on in the next couple months so I may need some volunteers to tell some Sea Stories so let me know if you are available to do this. It was pointed out to me after my last Commander's Corner that we only have approximately 20 local members so if we get 5 members to show up we have 25 percent participation. That's fine but

we can do better. If you know a bubblehead that may or not be a member ask him to come to a Wahoo Base meeting. Please keep up the good work.

Del Bowlby Wahoo Base Commander

April Meeting

The April Meeting of the Wahoo Base will be held at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District April 19th at 7:00 pm.

March Meeting Minutes

Clovis Memorial Veterans District
Room 2 March 15, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Commander Bowlby.

Donald Johnson said the Invocation

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Commander Bowlby

Introductions were held.

Commander Bowlby read the February minutes from the 7MC as the Sec/Treas. was not present.

Old Business

A great deal of discussion was held about how to get more members for the base and to get old members to come to the meeting.

New Business

Commander Bowlby stated that he was going to put more information out on Face Book.

It was brought up to have a forum on KMJ to celebrate the Birthday of the Submarine Force.

It was brought up to add a plaque to the existing memorial adding the rest of the lost boats and rededicating the memorial that the Fresno Chapter of the WWII submarine group put up at the V A Hospital

Also brought up was an idea to have a old submarine movie party at the VA Hospital or/and the Fresno Veterans Home

Jim Merritt was presented his Holland Club package

Commander Bowlby adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm

April Anniversaries

Del & Annette Bowlby 4/2

April Birthdays

Betty Holden 4/18

Helen Liles 4/22

Katherine Owens 4/22

Tom Adams 4/23

Sailing list For March

Del Bowlby, Art Brice, Jim Van Vranken, Donald Johnson, Jim Merritt, Russ Alford & Al Gedrimas

Boats lost in April



USS Pickerel (SS 177) Lost April 3, 1943 Lost (74 men all hands) by Japanese surface attack off Honshu, Japan



USS Grenadier (SS 210) Lost April 22, 1943 (76 men were taken prisoner 4 men died as POW's
72 survived the war) 10 miles West of Lem Voalan Strait in the Indian Ocean



USS Gudgeon (SS 211) probably lost April 18, 1944 with a loss of all hands (79 men) during a Japanese air and surface attack in the Northern Marianas. Gudgeon was listed officially as lost on June 7, 1944.



USS Snook (SS 279) Lost April 8, 1945 with a loss of all hands (84 men) to unknown causes off Formosa



USS Thresher (SSN 593) Lost April 10, 1963 with a loss of all hands (112 men & 17 civilian technicians) off the New England coast

Thought for the April

To dream by night is to escape your life.
To dream by day is to make it happen.
Stephen Richards

USSVI News

Submitted by: John E. Markiewicz on 3/2/2018

You are cordially invited to attend the 55th Annual USS Thresher Memorial Service that will be held on Saturday, April 7 @ 1300 at the R.W. Traip Academy in Kittery, Maine. Join us to help perpetuate the memories of the 129 men lost aboard USS Thresher and to provide your support to the attending USS Thresher Family & Former Crew members.

Submitted by: John E. Markiewicz on 3/17/2018

Fellow USSVI Members, The USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Foundation needs your help to realize our mission of erecting a National USS Thresher Commemorative Monument on the hallowed grounds of Arlington National Cemetery to honor and perpetuate the memories, and SUBASFE legacy, of the 129-men lost aboard USS Thresher on April 10, 1963. A link to a project supporters template letter is available below. Would you please download, fill out and send to Ms. Karen Durham-Aguilera, Executive Director, Army National Military Cemeteries?

Base News



Jim Merritt received his Holland Club Certificate from Commander Del Bowlby. To let you know how good our USSVI Holland Club Chairman is Jim says that his Qual card says he qualified on March 19, 1968. He received his Holland Club package on March 15, 2018



Here are the Wahoo Base Officers for 2018. Left to right Art Brice Vice Commander, Del Bowlby Commander & Al Gedrimas Secretary / Treasure

Cal Vet News

Mission Bay Affordable Housing Development for Veterans Breaks Ground in San Francisco

San Francisco, CA – Wet conditions didn't damper the spirit of Thursday's groundbreaking at 1150 3rd Street as more than 50 people attended a ceremony to begin construction of a new affordable housing development that will benefit 62 veterans and 56 low-income families in San Francisco.

The project is a joint effort from Swords to Plowshares, Chinatown Community Development Center (Chinatown CDC) and the San Francisco Office of Investment and Infrastructure, with special financing from the Veterans

Housing and Homelessness Prevention (VHHP) program. A redevelopment program over 10 years in the making, this project marks the first housing site in the city that will serve a dual purpose of housing both formerly homeless veterans and low income families in a shared location. Mission bay is a shining star in the VHHP program because it shows how projects should come together and moves forward in receiving VHHP funds and progressing into completed housing for our homeless", said CalVet Deputy Secretary for Home Loans Theresa Gunn. "Mission Bay is a recipient of the third round of VHHP funds which were awarded less than nine months ago, and here we stand breaking ground for the erection of these homes today." With the groundbreaking of this site in Mission Bay, the City and County of San Francisco moved closer to the goal of ending veterans' homelessness. The development, which is slated to open in late 2019, will offer comprehensive on-site supportive services and provide housing to nine percent of the city's veteran's currently experiencing homelessness. We are grateful to the late Mayor Lee who made this plot of land available to Swords to Plowshares and Chinatown Community Development Center," said Michael Blecker, Swords to Plowshares' executive director. "Collaborative efforts to ending veteran homelessness have led to a significant reduction in the number of chronically homeless veterans. This project is another critical step to getting our most vulnerable veterans housed."

On the Lighter Side

The Pastor entered his donkey in a race and it won. The Pastor was so pleased with the donkey that he entered it in the

race again and it won again. The local paper read: PASTOR'S ASS OUT FRONT. The Bishop was so upset with this kind of publicity that he ordered the Pastor not to enter the donkey in another race. The next day the local paper headline read: BISHOP SCRATCHES PASTOR'S ASS. This was too much for the Bishop so he ordered the Pastor to get rid of the donkey. The Pastor decided to give it to a Nun in a nearby convent. The local paper, hearing of the news, posted the following headline the next day: NUN HAS BEST ASS IN TOWN. The Bishop fainted. He informed the Nun that she would have to get rid of the donkey so she sold it to a farm for \$10. The next day the paper read: NUN SELLS ASS FOR \$10 This was too much for the Bishop so he ordered the Nun to buy back the donkey and lead it to the plains where it could run wild. The next day the headlines read: NUN ANNOUNCES HER ASS IS WILD AND FREE. The Bishop was buried the next day. The moral of the story is being concerned about public opinion can bring you much grief and misery even shorten your life. So be yourself and enjoy life. Stop worrying about everyone else's ass and just cover your own. You'll be a lot happier and live longer!

Rye Bread

Two old guys, one 80 and one 87, were sitting on a park bench one morning. The 87-year-old had just finished his morning jog and wasn't even short of breath. The 80-year-old was amazed at the guy's stamina and asked him what he did to have so much energy. The 87-year-old said, "Well, I eat rye bread every day. It makes the energy level high and you'll have great stamina with the ladies." So, on the way home the 80-

year-old stopped at the bakery. As he was looking around, the sales lady asked if he needed any help. He said, "Do you have any rye bread?" She said, "Yes, there's a whole shelf of it. Would you like some?" He said, "I want five loaves." She said, "My goodness, five loaves! By the time you get to the 3rd loaf, it'll be hard." He replied, "I can't believe everybody knows about this stuff but me"!

SQUIRRELS IN CHURCH

The Presbyterian Church called a meeting to decide what to do about their squirrel infestation. After much prayer and consideration, they concluded the squirrels were predestined to be there and they shouldn't interfere with God's divine will. At the Baptist church, the squirrels had taken an interest in the baptistery. The deacons met and decided to put a water slide on the baptistery and let the squirrels drown themselves. The squirrels liked the slide and, unfortunately, knew instinctively how to swim so twice as many squirrels showed up the following week.

The Lutheran church decided that they were not in a position to harm any of God's creatures; so they humanely trapped their squirrels and set them free near the Baptist church. Two weeks later the squirrels were back when the Baptists took down the water slide.

But the Catholic Church came up with a very creative strategy! They baptized all the squirrels and made them members of the church. Now they only see them at Christmas and Easter.

Not much was heard from the Jewish synagogue. They took the first squirrel and circumcised him. They haven't seen a squirrel since.