



The official newsletter of the Wolverine Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

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Lake Huron Picnic

Fast becoming an annual tradition, our July meeting was hosted by member Jim Thelander and his wife Pierrette at their spacious home in Fort Gratiot on the shores of Lake Huron.

Thanks, Jim and Pierrette



Sixth Annual Bubblehead Barbeque at Ozzie's

This year's "Bubblehead Barbeque" was held again at Rich "Ozzie" Osentoski's house in Trenton. Ozzie (as usual) put on a great feed, assisted by his daughters. Unfortunately, your friendly editor didn't get any pictures of the attendees. Guess we'll have Captain's Mast at the next meeting.



Buffalo, NY USSVI Convention

Representing Wolverine Base at the annual convention of United States Submarine Veterans were Ozzie Osentoski, Larry Anderson, Steve (Tex) & Helene Ritter, and Phil Klintworth. The imbedded USS Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN 600) reunion was attended by Larry and Phil.



Wolverine Base members at the Awards Dinner



Ozzie is recognized for his service as the Convention Manager for USSVI

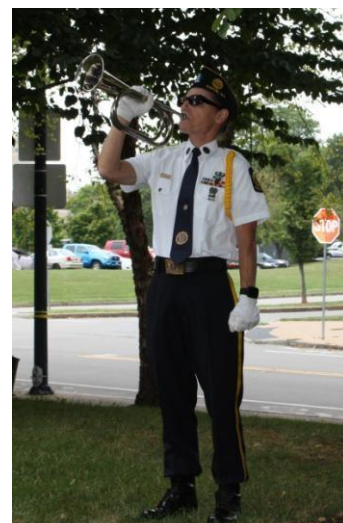


Phil and Larry at the Theodore Roosevelt reunion



Ozzie at the Ronquill reunion

The "Tolling of the Boats" ceremony was held pierside next to the USS Croaker (SS-246) berth. A local veterans organization provided a rifle salute and a bugler.



Military Appreciation Night at Jimmy John's Field

Wolverine Base members represented the Submarine Service on the evening of September 3 at Military Appreciation Night at Jimmy John's Field in Utica. This local ballfield is home to the United Shore Professional Baseball League.



MUSEUM SUBMARINES

A continuing feature of the *1MC* is a roster of current USN museum submarines, and some information about each. The current list follows. The data is taken mainly from the website of the Historic Naval Ships Association [www.hnsa.org].

Name	Hull No.	Location	Configuration	Website
USS Marlin	(SST-2)	Omaha, NE	SST	parks.cityofomaha.org/.../281-freedom-park
USS Cod	(SS-224)	Cleveland, OH	Fleet boat	www.usscod.org/
USS Drum	(SS-228)	Mobile, AL	Fleet boat	www.ussalabama.com/
USS Silversides	(SS-236)	Muskegon,	Fleet boat	www.silversidesmuseum.org/
USS Cavalla	(SS-244)	Galveston, TX	Guppy II	www.galvestonnavalmuseum.com/
USS Cobia	(SS-245)	Manitowoc, WI	Fleet boat	www.wisconsinmaritime.org/
USS Croaker	(SS-246)	Buffalo, NY	Guppy II	www.buffalonavalkpark.org/
USS Bowfin	(SS-287)	Honolulu, HI	Fleet boat	www.bowfin.org/
USS Ling	(SS-297)	Hackensack, NJ	Fleet boat	www.njnm.org/
USS Lionfish	(SS-298)	Fall River, MA	Fleet boat	www.battleshipcove.org/
USS Batfish	(SS-310)	Muskogee, OK	Fleet boat	www.warmemorialpark.org/
USS Becuna	(SS-319)	Philadelphia, PA	Guppy IA	www.phillyseaport.org/
USS Clamagore	(SS-343)	Mount Pleasant, SC	Guppy III	www.patriotspoint.org/
USS Pampanito	(SS-383)	San Francisco, CA	Fleet boat	www.maritime.org/
USS Razorback	(SS-394)	North Little Rock, AR	Guppy II	www.aimmuseum.org/
USS Torsk	(SS-423)	Baltimore, MD	Fleet snorkel	www.historicships.org/

USS Requin	(SS-481)	Pittsburgh, PA	Fleet snorkel	www.carnegiesciencecenter.org/
USS Dolphin	(AGSS-555)	San Diego, CA	Deep diving	www.sdmaritime.org/
USS Albacore	(AGSS-569)	Portsmouth, NH	Experimental	www.ussalbacore.org/
USS Nautilus	(SSN-571)	Groton, CT	SSN	www.ussnautilus.org/
USS Growler	(SSG-577)	New York, NY	SSG	www.intrepidmuseum.org/
USS Blueback	(SS-581)	Portland, OR	Teardrop hull	www.oms.edu/submarine

Featured in this issue is USS Croaker (SS-246)

Built as part of the effort to assemble a major submarine force just prior to and after the U.S. entry into World War II, USS Croaker was sent into the Pacific to wage a war of attrition against Japan's merchant marine and Navy. Croaker made six war patrols and attacked and sank a cruiser, four tankers, two freighters, an ammunition ship, two escort craft, and a minesweeper. Credited with eleven sinkings, with a total of 40,000 tons, Croaker's war career typifies the tremendous success of the submarine war against Japan.



At the end of the war Croaker returned to Groton, Connecticut, and served as schoolship out of New London. In 1953 she was converted to a hunter-killer submarine (SSK) at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. She served in that configuration until she was decommissioned in April 1968.

Since 1988, Croaker has served as a museum ship at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park in Buffalo, New York. Restored and open for tours, Croaker is part of the historic fleet at the Naval & Military Park, which includes the guided missile cruiser Little Rock and the destroyer The Sullivans.

Buffalo Naval Park

The Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park is the largest inland Naval Park in the country. Located on Buffalo's Waterfront, this unique family destination features four decommissioned Naval vessels that served in a variety of military conflicts in our nation's history.



COMING EVENTS

20 Nov	1600	Monthly base meeting, Hamlin Pub (22 Mile Rd & Hayes, Shelby Twp)
18 Dec	1600	Annual Base Holiday Party , Hamlin Pub (22 Mile Rd & Hayes, Shelby Twp)



LOST BOATS [October - December]

USS Seawolf (SS-197)

Lost on Oct 3, 1944 with the loss of 83 officers and men and 17 US Army troops 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 Oct 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 Oct 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 lost to depth charges dropped by a Japanese patrol aircraft.

USS Dorado (SS-248)

Lost on Oct 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 enroute to Panama. She may have been sunk by a U.S. patrol plane that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or a German U-boat that was in the vicinity.

USS Escolar (SS-294)

Lost on Oct 17, 1944 with the loss of 82 men. She was on her 1st war patrol and was most likely lost to a mine somewhere in the Yellow Sea.

USS Shark II (SS-314)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 with the loss of 87 men when she was sunk 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 1,800 U.S. POW's on board.

USS Darter (SS-227)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 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 Oct 25, 1944 with the loss of 78 men in the Formosa Strait. Tang was 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 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 Abangarez off the Panama Canal.

USS Albacore (SS-218)

Lost on Nov 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 eleventh war patrol and struck

a mine while running submerged near a Japanese patrol craft that had detected her.

USS Growler (SS-215)

Lost on Nov 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 12th war patrol, and was lost while attacking a convoy, probably as a result of a depth charge attack or victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes.

USS Scamp (SS-277)

Probably sunk 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 and destroy her with depth charges.

USS Corvina (SS-226)

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

USS Sculpin (SS-191)

Lost on Nov 19, 1943 with the loss of 43 men near Truk. 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 but only 21 survived the war. Among those not abandoning ship was CAPT Cromwell,

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

USS Capelin (SS-289)

Lost on Dec 2, 1943 with the loss of 76 men. She was on her 1st war patrol, but her exact location, date and cause of loss remain a mystery. She may have been lost to mines or an operational casualty.

USS Sealion (SS-195)

Lost on Dec 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. One other Sealion man was later captured and died in POW camp.

USS F-1 / Carp (SS-20)

Lost on December 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.

USS S-4 (SS-109)

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

Lost Harbor

by Leslie Nelson Jennings

**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.**



Our purpose 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 be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support 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.



Wolverine Base

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

Officers

Base Commander: Frederick J Kinzel

Sr. Vice Commander: Philip G. Klintworth

Secretary: Denise Walsh

Treasurer: Robert S. Walsh

Chaplain: Steve Ritter

Chief of the Boat: Sam Ritchie