



# Hawgfish Scuttlebutt



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## Current Executive Committee:

Base Commander  
Vice Commander  
COB  
Chaplain  
Treasurer  
Yeoman  
Webmaster  
Membership  
Storekeeper  
Holland Club  
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## Upcoming Events:

## August 2008

### Commander's Corner

Another month has passed and the heat of summer continues into August. As we move into August, we have the opportunity to elect new national USSVI officers and approve changes to our National bylaws. I encourage each of you to go to the USSVI website and vote for the NC of your choice and for the By Law changes. Many of our national offices only have one candidate so they will be easy.

We, the base members, will be asked to submit nominees for base officers for 2009. The present officers are willing to serve another term, but are willing to give up our positions to others who may be interested. We don't want to go stagnant with the same leadership term after term but would rather have some new blood in the officer ranks. Submit your selections to John Barr by October 31 but make sure you contact your nominees to verify they are willing to serve.

Next month is the National Convention in Fort Worth. The conventions are great times to get together with former shipmates and rehash the "good ole days". Fort Worth will be the closest convention to us for several years. The 2009 convention will

be in San Diego and 2010 will be in Cincinnati. Consider attending the convention in Fort Worth and support the host base there. They were very helpful to us in our Convention in Little Rock. Plus you will have a good time.

John Barr is working on our August Activity at Murry's Dinner Theater. If you have any suggestions for base activities, let John know and he will try to get it set up if possible. There will be no meeting in September due to the National Convention. We will have a Navy anniversary dinner in October. If anyone would like to coordinate this, please contact John Barr. Some suggestions at the last meeting were a Dinner in the Little Rock, Hot Springs, Russellville areas or a night at a Bed And Breakfast in Heber Springs or Eureka Springs with a dinner at one of the local restaurants. John would appreciate any help you might give him.

Also at the last meeting, it was voted to raise the annual dues to \$15.00 and set up a life member dues structure. This information will be posted on the base website. We also need ideas for base involvement in community activities around the state. We did elect to participate in the Eagle Scout program encouraged by National. We will be

concentrating on the Quapaw district Scout troops. We will present the Eagle Scout with a badge and certificate at his ceremony. Anyone who knows of an upcoming Eagle Scout, let Carl Schmidt know about him and he will get the awards. Hopefully, we can have a base member present the awards at the Eagle Scout ceremony.

We will continue to schedule work days on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month for anyone who has the time to participate. There are many projects that need work on the boat and SubVets are creative people who can accomplish these projects. Please attend these if at all possible. We begin at 0900 and you are welcome to stay as long as you are able. We normally close down around 1500 to allow you get back home and get the tools returned to the shop before closing time for the AIMM staff.

Here's hoping to see many of you at the August Activity that John is planning for us.

**Ray Wewers,**  
**Base Commander**

## [Submarines Lost/Damaged During the Month of August](#)

[USS Grunion \(SS-216\)](#) **1-Aug-1942**. 70 men lost.

[USS S-39 \(SS-144\)](#) **14-Aug-1942**. No loss of crew.

[USS Harder \(SS-257\)](#) **24-Aug-1944**. All hands lost (80). Commander Samuel Dealey, USN was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for Harder's fifth patrol.

[USS Flier \(SS-250\)](#) **13-Aug-1944**. All hands lost (80).

[USS Bullhead \(SS-332\)](#) **6-Aug-1945**. All hands lost (84).

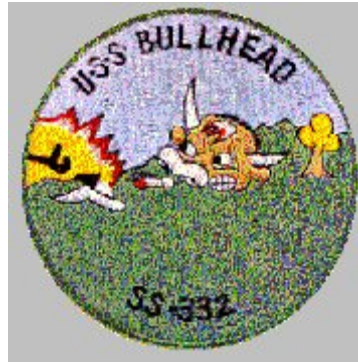
### *After WWII*

USS COCHINO (SS 345) **26-Aug-1949**. One man lost. An additional six men from TUSK (SS 426) were lost in rescue attempt.

## **USS BULLHEAD (SS 332) August 6, 1945 – 84 Hands Lost**

Departing Fremantle for her third war patrol, BULLHEAD, led by LCDR E.R. Holt, Jr., started for her area of responsibility on July 31, 1945. She was to patrol in the Java Sea at dark on September 5 and head for Subic Bay, Philippines. CAPITAINE and PUFFER were also to patrol in the Java Sea area, as were the British submarines TACITURN and THOROUGH.

BULLHEAD arrived in her area on August 6, but CAPITAINE did not arrive until August 13. On August 12, CAPITAINE ordered BULLHEAD to take position the following day in a scouting line with CAPITAINE and PUFFER. There was no reply and on August 15, CAPITAINE reported, "Have been unable to contact BULLHEAD by any means since arriving in area."



Since those submarines named above were in the same general area as BULLHEAD, and COD and CHUB passed through in transit at various times, it is difficult to point to one Japanese anti-submarine attack as the one which sank BULLHEAD. However, the most likely one occurred on August 6, 1945, when an enemy army plane attacked with depth charges. It claimed two direct hits, and for ten minutes thereafter, there was a great amount of gushing oil and air bubbles rising in the water. Since the position given is very near the Bali coast, it is presumed that the proximity of mountain peaks shortened BULLHEAD's radar range and prevented her receiving a warning of the plane's approach.

BULLHEAD sank four enemy ships, totaling 1,800 tons, and damaged three ships, for 1,300 tons, in her first two patrols. Her first patrol was made in the South China Sea from the latter part of March to the end of April 1945. No enemy contacts were made, but on March 31 and again on April 24 BULLHEAD bombarded Pratas Island with her five inch gun. She also rescued three airmen from a downed B-29 following an air strike on the China coast. In May and June 1945 BULLHEAD patrolled the Gulf of Siam and the South China Sea during her second patrol. Here she sank two small freighters, a schooner and a sub chaser, and damaged two more sub chasers and another small freighter, all in gun actions.

## **Navy News**

### **U.S. Sub Leaked Radioactive Water, Possibly for Months**

*From: Jamie McIntyre & Mike Mount CNN*

Water with trace amounts of radioactivity may have leaked for months from a U.S. Navy nuclear-powered submarine as it traveled around the Pacific to ports in Guam, Japan and Hawaii, Navy officials told CNN on Friday.



*Officials say the radiation leaked from the USS Houston, seen in this undated photo, was virtually undetectable.*

The leak was found on the USS Houston, a Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine, after it went to Hawaii for routine maintenance last month, Navy officials said.

Navy officials said the amount of radiation leaked into the water was virtually undetectable. But the Navy alerted the Japanese government because the submarine had been docked in Japan.

The problem was discovered last month when a build-up of leaking water popped a covered valve and poured onto a sailor's leg while the submarine was in dry dock.

An investigation found a valve was slowly dripping water from the sub's nuclear power plant. The water had not been in direct contact with the nuclear reactor, Navy officials said.

Officials with knowledge of the incident could not quantify the amount of radiation leaked but insisted it was "negligible" and an "extremely low level." The total amount leaked while the sub was in port in Guam, Japan and Hawaii was less than a half of a microcurie (0.000005 curies), or less than what is found in a 50-pound

bag of lawn and garden fertilizer, the officials said.

The sailor who was doused, a Houston crew member, tested negative for radiation from the water, according to Navy officials.

Since March, the Houston had crisscrossed the western Pacific, spending a week in Japan and several weeks in both Guam and Hawaii, Navy officials said.

The Navy on Friday notified the Japanese government of the leak, the officials said, and told them it was possible the ship had been leaking while in port in Sasebo, Japan, in March.

While Japan has agreed to allow U.S. nuclear-powered ships in Japanese ports, the decision was a not popular in Japan.

The Houston incident comes at a time when the Navy is trying to smooth over a problem with a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier the USS George Washington.

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### **Razorback Base Meeting Minutes July 26, 2008**

The Razorback Base meeting was called to order by Base Commander Ray Wewers at 1600 at the American Legion Post in Little Rock, AR. The Creed was read by Ray Wewers. Tolling of the Bell for Lost Boats was led by Joe Mathis. Invocation was given by Carl Schmidt. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Paul Honeck. There were 15 members and 1 visitor present. Our visitor was a base commander from Dallas TX.

Minutes of the June 28, 2008 meeting were read and approved.

Financial Report-Greg Schwerman read the financial report, and there is a balance of \$6447.05 in the general fund. Maintenance fund balance \$218.03. Base Charity fund-\$1700. USS Snook Memorial balance-\$1797.26. Motion made and seconded to accept the financial report.

#### Committee Reports

1. Chaplain-Carl reported that Cecil Goins wife had died, and Sherry Groves had had surgery.
2. Membership-We have one new member from Ala. Sidney Logan

3. Storekeeper-Billy Hollaway took orders for special shirts and caps, and reported a balance of \$111.52 on hand.
4. Memorials and Ceremonies-A plaque for base members on eternal patrol was discussed. A motion was made and seconded to have this plaque made and possibly displayed in the reception area of the USS Razorback. Motion passed. Carl Schmidt was asked to make plaque and find out about brass name plates that will be added to it.
5. Activities-None planned at this time, but going to Murry's or Travelers game discussed. The Navy Anniversary Dinner in Oct. also discussed.

Communications-Thank you letter from State of AR. for the Base Attending Memorial Services at the Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery, and a card from Cecil Goins.

#### Old Business

1. Annual Dues Proposal-John Barr read final reading of dues change. Motion was made and seconded to change annual dues to \$15. Motion passed.
2. Life Member Dues Proposal-John Barr read final reading of life membership dues change. Motion was made and seconded to change life membership dues. Motion passed. Changes in the life membership dues were filed with the yeoman.
3. Bylaws revision-Billy Hollaway read the final reading for the revision of the by-laws. Motion was made and seconded to accept the by-laws as read. Motion passed. The revision of the by-laws was filed with the yeoman.
4. Holland Club Inductees-none
5. National Convention-Fort Worth-Ray Wewers reminded us of the date Sept. 1-7, 2008. Hope more will be able to sign up to go.
6. Sea Daddy Program-John Barr will be distributing list to people to call and visit with people in the base who have not

been in attendance for some time.

- 7. Razorback Restoration-Ray talked about the problem with the third air-conditioner, and loading the torpedoes we have on the open barge.
- 8. Work Days on Razorback-Ray will try to schedule this on the second Saturday of the month.

New Business

- 1. National Elections-Ray Wewers reminded everyone to be sure and vote.
- 2. Base Elections for 2009-2010-Motion was made and seconded to send out by e-mail and letters, a request for nominations for base officers. Motion passed. The existing officers have stated they will serve another term, but there will be a space for nominations for all offices. These e-mails and letters must be returned by Oct. 31, 2008 to John Barr. Ballots with all nominees will be in the Nov. news letter. The vote will be at the Nov. meeting, and the nominees must be present to be voted for. Installation of officers will be in Dec.
- 3. Projectile from a battleship have been offered for Snook Memorial-Motion was made and seconded to donate \$100 for the moving of the two projectiles from Russellville to the Snook Memorial. Motion passed.
- 4. USSVI Calendars-The storekeeper will order 10 calendars to be on sale for the base.
- 5. Eagle Scouts-A motion was made and seconded to award all eagle Scouts in the Quapaw District a certificate and badge from the USS Razorback base. Motion passed. Carl Schmidt will handle the awards.

Benediction-Carl Schmidt gave our benediction.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

*Jane Farmer  
Yeoman*

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**Changes to Bylaws Regarding Dues**

(Submitted by John C. Barr, Membership Chair – July 2008)

At our regular Base meeting on Saturday, July 26, 2008, the third and final reading of the proposed changes to dues structure was passed. There are two significant changes – one affecting annual dues and a new LIFE dues structure.

Annual dues will increase to \$15 for the Razorback Base. We have paid only \$10 for several years. Additionally, the Executive Committee may raise annual dues as necessary in the future without the formal process followed this time.

Our 33 Holland Club members (of a total of 197 members) pay no Base dues. Another 23 Holland Club members do pay base dues because Razorback is not their primary base. With the institution of life dues for Base membership (see below), it is anticipated that a great number of members will choose that option and no longer pay annual dues. Dues will be payable before the end of the calendar year.

LIFE dues may now be paid for Razorback Base membership. The dues were set as a percentage of USSVI Life dues. (You need to be a Life member of USSVI to be eligible to pay Life dues for the Base.) The dues are as follows, and will change with any changes in USSVI Life dues:

|                                      |              |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Age 45 and under of USSVI Life dues) | \$250 (1/2   |
| Age 46 to 55 of USSVI Life dues)     | \$200 (1/2   |
| Age 56 to 65 of USSVI Life dues)     | \$150 (1/2   |
| Age 66 to 75 of USSVI Life dues)     | \$50 (1/4 of |
| Age 76 and over of USSVI Life dues)  | \$25 (1/4 of |

As before, members having the Razorback Base as their primary base that are inducted into the Holland Club will no longer have to pay dues for the Razorback Base. Dual Base members that are also members of the Holland Club may pay the Life dues noted above for Razorback Base membership.

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**Time to Nominate New Base Officers**

Submitted by John C. Barr, Membership Chair

At our regular Base meeting on Saturday, July 26, 2008, we decided to ask for nominations for Base officers for 2009 – 2010 (2 year terms now) via e-mail. We will send letters to those members that do not have e-mail. This process is necessary because we will have no regular meetings in August or September. Your participation is strongly encouraged.

The existing 5 officer positions are - Base Commander, Base Vice Commander, Base Treasurer, Chief of the Boat, and Chaplain. The incumbent officers - Ray Wewers, Paul Honeck, Greg Schwerman, Joe Mathis and Carl Schmidt - -all are willing to accept nominations to continue in their respective positions. All regular members of the Base (for at least one year) are eligible to be an officer. Associate members are not eligible to be elected officers.

I will accept nominations for Base officers until October 15th by e-mail, by telephone or in writing. Please ensure that your nominee is willing to accept.

Ballots will be sent out with the November issue of the Scuttlebutt. Ballots must be returned prior the Base meeting on Saturday, November 22, 2008. Nominees must be present at that regular Base meeting.

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**I Believe...**

A Birth Certificate shows that we were born.  
A Death Certificate shows that we died.  
Pictures show that we lived!

Have a seat--Relax--And read this slowly.

I believe...That just because two people argue, doesn't mean they don't love each other.  
And just because they don't argue, it doesn't mean they do love each other.

I believe...That we don't have to change friends if we understand that friends change.

I believe...That no matter how good a friend is, they're going to hurt you every once in a while and you must forgive them for that.

I believe...That true friendship continues to grow, even over the longest distance. Same goes for true love.

I believe...That you can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life.

I believe...That it's taking me a long time to become the person I want to be.

I believe...That you should always leave loved ones with loving words. It may be the last time you see them.

I believe...That you can keep going long after you think you can't.

I believe...That we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel.

I believe...That either you control your attitude or it controls you.

I believe...That heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.

I believe...That money is a lousy way of keeping score.

I believe...That my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time.

I believe...That sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you're down will be the ones to help you get back up.

I believe...That sometimes when I'm angry I have the right to be angry, but that doesn't give me the right to be cruel.

I believe...That maturity has more to do with what types of experiences you've had and what you've learned from them and less to do with how many birthdays you've celebrated.

I believe...That it isn't always enough, to be forgiven by others. Sometimes, you have to learn to forgive yourself.

I believe...That no matter how bad your heart is broken the world doesn't stop for your grief.

I believe...That our background and circumstances may have influenced who we are, But, we are responsible for who we become.

I believe...That you shouldn't be so eager to find out a secret. It could change your life forever.

I believe...Two people can look at the exact same thing and see something totally different.

I believe...That your life can be changed in a matter of hours by people who don't even know you.

I believe...That even when you think you have no more to give, when a friend cries out to you - you will find the strength to help.

I believe...That credentials on the wall do not make you a decent human being.

I believe...That the people you care about most in life are taken from you too soon.

I believe...That you should send this to all of the people that you believe in, I just did.

'The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything.'



**August Birthdays**

- August 3rd – Robin/Medearis
- August 4th – Harold Pelton
- August 7th – John Albers
- August 7th – Bill Dempsey
- August 9th – Stan Walker
- August 11th – Jesse Bryant
- August 11th – Ray Wewers
- August 12th – William Nichols
- August 12th – Larry Hobby
- August 19th – Dennis Foster
- August 22nd – Joe Blanchett
- August 23rd – Bill Hollaway
- August 23rd – James Barnum
- August 25th – Riversaleh Saleh
- August 25th – Nicholas Proctor
- August 25th – Stew Burner Stephens
- August 25th – Sandy Stephens
- August 27th – Juanez Stilt

**Happy Birthday!**

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**REMEMBER to watch out for kids returning to schools in your community.**

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***Treasures Report: July 2008***

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| BEGINNING BAL.:        | \$ 6144.70 |
| DEPOSITS:              |            |
| Dues Base              | 10.00      |
| Dues National          | 100.00     |
| Base Campout Pmts      | 290.00     |
| DC1 Banquet            | 418.00     |
| TOTAL DEPOSITS:        | \$ 818.00  |
| EXPENSES:              |            |
| News Letter (INK)      | 97.75      |
| Campout Expenses       | 313.87     |
| TOTAL EXPENSES:        | \$411.62   |
| ENDING BALANCE:        | \$6551.08  |
| CHARITYS               |            |
| Boat Maintenance Fund  |            |
| BEGINNING              | 218.03     |
| Donation James W Mason | 500.00     |
| ENDING BALLANCE        | \$ 718.03  |
| Base Charity Fund      | \$ 1700.00 |
| USS Snook Memorial     | \$1797.26  |
| TOTAL BASE FUNDS=      | \$10766.37 |

***Greg Schwerman: Base Treasurer***

