

Hawgfish Scuttlebutt



Razorback Base
United States Submarine Veterans



March, 2023

Before Pearl Harbor

John C. Barr

For most of us, I believe we think of WWII starting with the attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941. Yet there were considerable military conflicts that preceded that fateful day, both in Asia and Europe. The majority of the American public did not want to get involved in those conflicts. Memories of the “Great War” remained strongly in their memories and America’s economy was still recovering from the Great Depression. Despite the public’s isolationist position, the United States entered WW I with limited public objection, due in great part to Germany’s use of unrestricted submarine warfare, including attacks on merchant shipping without warning. There was thought that the U. S. was (to some degree) protected by two broad oceans. Many actually believed entry was done in part to provide more sales for munitions industries.

Pre-dating WWII, Germany remilitarized putting troops in the Rhineland, destruction of Czechoslovakia, a forced unification with Austria and, critically, a Sudeten crisis in 1938. Hitler effectively coerced Britain (Prime Minister Chamberlain) into ceding Sundenland with the Munich Pact. (See <https://www.historyhit.com/sudetenland/> for more detail.) The pact initially viewed as heroic had consequences leading to the war starting on Hitler’s terms. Even with Germany’s invasion into Poland in September, 1939 followed by a declaration of war from Britain and France, the United States continued its outward appearance of isolationism.

All of the turmoil in Europe was predated by Japan’s invasion of Manchuria in September, 1931. Another relatively minor incident (Wanpaoshan incident; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wanpaoshan_incident) evolved into an all-out invasion. The Japanese Army, without direction from the central government, continued deep into Manchuria with an eventual occupation of northeast China. Japan’s growth and industrialization could not be supported by resources originally available to Japan. There were competing interests between Japan and the U. S. for resources. Yet the United States still supplied steel and petroleum to Japan for its war against China – even with Japan conducting atrocities of murder and rape in China.

(Continued on Page 5.)

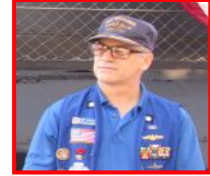
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To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.



Commander's



Hello Shipmates,

Our Executive Board met in January. Several events will be planned for the actual date (see page 3) if not listed as we get closer and we can pick the best time. Other things were discussed with more to be determined later such as the geo-thermal unit for the forward battery being out and our possibility of assisting with replacement, plans for the float and repair for participation in parades, and our membership situation. We hope to see good turnouts for meetings and events and the list in no way is meant to be the only things we do. If you have any ideas for things we can do, let us know. Our Base is for us!

I hope you survived winter and it looks like we are into a wet spring but warmer weather is nice. As the weather warms, one of our projects is to repair the "Razorback Sail" float for parades. I will get some 2x4s and we will meet at the parking lot area of AIMM and redo the framing inside the sail. More details to follow. Our next event will be the Submarine Birthday Ball held at the Bridge and Forge Tap Room in Conway on 8 April at 5 PM. This will be the 123rd Birthday and the plan is to order off the menu. Cake will be provided. RSVP to Greg Schwerman if you can make it.

Other events will be discussed on the 25th so more will be put out soon. Please check the website since our newsletters are less frequent. <https://www.razorbackbase.com/about-1>

Alan Malone
Base Commander

Dolphin History

“On 13 June 1923, Captain E.J. King, Commander, Submarine Division Three (later Fleet Admiral and Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, during WW II), suggested to the Secretary of the Navy (Bureau of Navigation) that a distinguishing device for qualified submariners be adopted. He submitted a pen-and-ink sketch of his own showing a shield mounted on the beam ends of a submarine, with dolphins forward of, and abaft, the conning tower. The suggestion was strongly endorsed by Commander Submarine Division Atlantic. Over the next several months the Bureau of Navigation (now known as BuPers) solicited additional designs from several sources. Some combined a submarine with a shark motif. Others showed submarines and dolphins, and still others used a shield design. A Philadelphia firm, which had done work for the Navy in the field of Naval Academy class rings, was approached by the Bureau of Navigation with the request that it design a suitable badge. Two designs were submitted by the firm, and these were combined into a single design. This design was executed in bas-relief in clay. It was a bow view of a submarine, proceeding on the surface, with bow planes rigged for diving, flanked by dolphins in a horizontal position with their heads resting on the upper edge of the bow planes. Today a similar design is used: a dolphin fish flanking the bow and conning tower of a submarine. On 20 March 1924, the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation recommended to the Secretary of the Navy that the design be adopted. The recommendation was accepted by Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., Acting Secretary of the Navy. His acceptance is dated March 1924.

“The submarine insignia was to be worn at all times by officers and men qualified in submarine duty attached to submarine units or organizations, ashore and afloat, and not to be worn when not attached. In 1941 the Uniform Regulations were modified to permit officers and men qualified who were eligible to wear the submarine insignia after they had been assigned to other duties in the naval service, unless such right had been revoked.

(Continued on Page 5)



Activities (considered) for 2023

(Details for each as available.)

(Check website at <https://www.razorbackbase.com/about-1>)

(Or, check with Base officer listed on page 8.)

•Mar 25 - Meeting at AIMM—1400

•8 April 2023 @ 5PM

123rd US Submarine Celebration at the Birthday Brick and Forge Tap Room
Conway, AR 8 April 2023 @ 5PM

•May - Murrays Dinner Theater

•Base Picnic and camp out June 16 – 17 – 18th

This year the base picnic and camp out will be at Wolly Hollow State Park 82
Woolly Hollow Rd, Greenbrier, AR

<https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/parks/woolly-hollow-state-park>

As of February 9, there are 4 camp sites left so if you plan to camp make your
reservation soon. Please mark the date the picnic will be on Saturday 17 June at
noon.

We will put out more information as the date gets closer.

<https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/parks/woolly-hollow-state-park>

•July 29 - Baseball game (Confirmed)



•Aug - USSVI convention

Hyatt Regency, Buffalo, NY. August 24, 2022 thru August 27, 2022 August 24, 2022
thru August 27, 2022

Hyatt Regency, Buffalo, NY

Contact: Fred Marazita, buffalocon2022@gmail.com

•Sep - Potluck and Meeting in Evening

Possibly at RV Park near AIMM.

•Oct 27 - Navy birthday ball (looking at attending Reservist Ball)

•Nov 11- Veterans Day

•Dec 9 - Christmas Party



LOST BOATS

(Control C on boat name to see Wikipedia information.)

Ship Name	Hull #	Month	Year
Perch	SS-176	3	1942
Triton	SS-201	3	1943
Grampus	SS-207	3	1943
Tullibee	SS-284	3	1944
Trigger	SS-237	3	1945
Kete	SS-369	3	191945
Pickerel	SS-177	4	1943
Grenadier	SS-210	4	1943
Gudgeon	SS-211	4	1944
Snook	SS-279	4	1945
Lagarto	SS-371	5	1945
S-27	SS-132	6	1942
R-12	SS-89	6	1943
Herring	SS-233	6	1944
Golet	SS-361	6	1944
Bonefish	SS-223	6	1945

Sailor Rest Your Oar

Leslie Owen "Jack" Gleason, Jr., STS@SS

Leslie Owen "Jack" Gleason Jr., 76, went on Eternal Patrol on Monday, November 28, 2022 in Benton, Arkansas. Owen joined the Navy in 1963. He qualified on the Alexander serving 1964-1967 followed by service Atule 67-68, Grayling 69-70, Amberjack in 1970 and Haddo 70-72.



He met Lynda Steele and the two married in December of 1969. He left the Navy in October of 1972. As a civilian Jack enjoyed his professional life, first as a contractor to the Navy, then as an electrician, working his way to electrical planner in Colorado and Arizona before retiring to Hot Springs Village, Arkansas in 2016.

During his lifetime, Jack was a member of several organizations including the United States Submarine Veterans and also had the distinct honor of receiving the Warriors Medal of Valor by the Native American Nations of the United States of America.

After retirement he began taking classes, primarily in writing. This pursuit led him to become an award winning author, publishing stories in magazines and eventually several novels.

Services were held on December 17, 2022 at Hot Springs Village, AR. The family wishes that in lieu of flowers donations be made in the memory of L.O. "Jack" Gleason to lung cancer research at the American Lung Association https://action.lung.org/site/Donation2?df_id=31272&mfc_pref=T&31272.donation=form.



Walter A. Gossfeld, (SOS2 (SS))

Walter "Walt" A. Gossfeld, age 85, of Hartford, Wisconsin passed away on January 15, 2023. He found eternal peace surrounded by his loving family at the Aurora Medical Center in Grafton.

Walter qualified in submarines on the USS Besugo (SS-321) in 1957 followed by service on the Razorback in 1958 and the Raton 1958-59, and was a SOS2(SS) when he left the Navy.

Walter was born July 1, 1937 and married Elaine (nee Hessen) on November 24, 1962, sharing a devoted and happy 60 years together. Walt entered the Navy where he was a submariner, serving four proud years in San Diego, California. Upon completing his active duty, he graduated with an associate's degree from MATC in electrical engineering.

After several years of career achievements, he retired from JCPenney after over 24 years of service as an electrical engineer. After retirement, he spent his free time volunteering at the Hartford Auto Museum, which he enjoyed for over 20 years. Walt also loved golfing and operating his ham radio, using his famous call letters N9LLS.

Faith was very important to Walter and was fervently dedicated to his church and the Lord. Memorial services for Walt were held on Friday, January 20, 2023, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in West Bend, Wisconsin, officiated by the Reverend Ben Golisch

**Published by the *USS Razorback Base,*
*United States Submarine Veterans.***

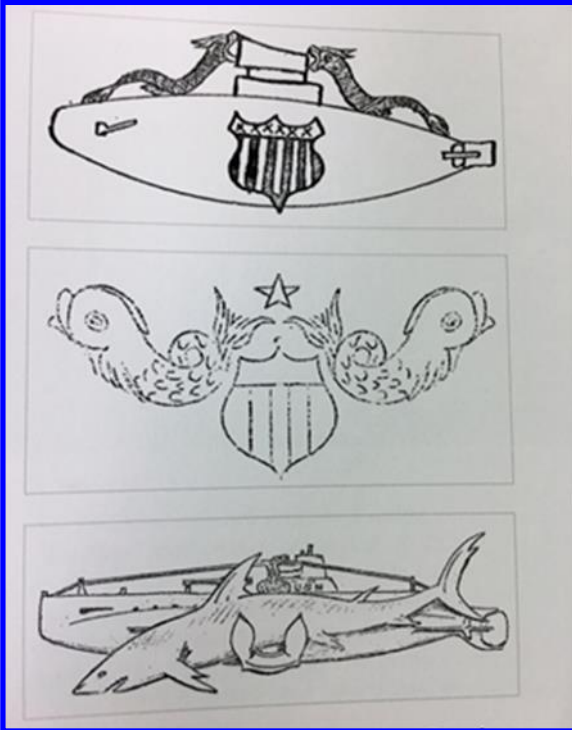
**Editor, John C. Barr
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jcbarr346@att.net**



(Continued from Page 3)

“The officers’ insignia was a bronze, gold plated metal pin, worn centered above the left breast pocket and above the ribbons and medals. Enlisted men wore the insignia, embroidered in silk: white silk for blue clothing and blue silk for white clothing. This was sewn on the outside of the right sleeve, midway between the wrist and elbow. The device was two and three-quarters inches long. In 1943, the Uniform Regulations were modified to provide that

‘Enlisted men, who are qualified and subsequently promoted to commissioned or warrant ranks, may wear enlisted submarine insignia on the left breast until they qualify as submarine officers, at which time this insignia would be replaced by the officers’ submarine pin.’ In mid-1947, the embroidered device shifted from the sleeve of the enlisted men’s jumper to above the left breast pocket. A change to the Uniform Regulations dated 21 September 1950 authorized the embroidered insignia for officers (in addition to the pin-on insignia) and a bronze, silver plated, pin-on insignia for enlisted men (in addition to the embroidered device).”



The original submission from Captain Ernest J. King was very different from the final version. His version is the top one on this picture.

It is important to note that the dolphins on the insignia are fish (also known as dorado or mahi-mahi). In Greek mythology, these creatures were attendants of Poseidon, god of the sea.



Officer



Enlisted

From the November 1924 Changes to Uniform Regulations

(Continued from Page 1.)

The war in Europe expanded greatly with Nazi Germany occupying most of France, central Europe, Scandinavia and northern Africa. Great Britain was under severe and constant siege which led to the Lend/Lease program in 1939 for Great Britain. Japan and Germany had formed an Axis alliance along with Mussolini’s Italian regime. Japan had continued on its push for territories for more resources into British Malaya and the oil-rich Dutch East Indies. The U. S. then froze all Japanese assets in the United States in July, 1941 which also cut off U.S. oil. This caused Japan to plan its “Southern Operation” to seize the British naval facility at Singapore, the American facilities in the Philippines and at Pearl Harbor thus allowing an attack on the Dutch East Indies.

It was a surprise attack at Pearl Harbor. An aggression without a preceding declaration of war. Horrible for the United States but also so tragic for so many others for so long. Germany did not want to face a second front in the war with the United States participating, but the surprise attack brought in the Americans when Germany was engaged in a massive battle to its East against Russia.

Reference WEB Sites

<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/path-pearl-harbor>

<https://www.historyextra.com/period/second-world-war/why-when-how-america-entered-ww2-pearl-harbor-roosevelt/>

<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/great-debate#:~:text=The%20Japanese%20attack%20on%20Pearl%20Harbor%20on%20December%207%2C%201941,only%20a%20single%20dissenting%20vote>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_invasion_of_Manchuria

<https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/museums/nmusn/explore/photography/wwii/wwii-atlantic/battle-of-the-atlantic/pre-us-entry-into-wwii.html>

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Invasion-of-Poland>



You may not know that AIMM had to suspend their overnights for awhile. Good news! They are coming again after the first of the year. They will be looking for volunteer sub vets. Your assistance has always been appreciated. Please help. The overnights are a significant source of revenue for the very “non-profit” operation.

Myna Miller | mynamiller63@hotmail.com |

<p>Saturday March 25 Boy Scouts Memphis, TN 10 up to 35 Sub-Vet-</p> <p>Saturday April 1 Jim Collin Chicago, IL 5 people Sub-Vet-</p>	<p>Friday April 7 The University of the South Sewanee, TN 35 People Sub-Vet – Pete Jilek</p> <p>Friday April 14 Troop 361 Brian Hansen Brentwood Mo. 35 people Sub-Vet -</p>	<p>Saturday April 29 Baptist Prep School Little Rock AR 35 people Jessica Jackson Sub-vet -</p> <p>Friday May 5 Baptist Prep School Little Rock AR 35 people Jessica Jackson Sub-Vet – Manning</p>	<p>Saturday May 13 Troop 690 Rockwall Texas 15 People Daryl Wilkerson Sub-Vet</p> <p>Saturday June 10 Class Birthday Party David Engle Memphis TN 22 People Sub-vet -</p>
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Barr’s Opinion / Editorial Comments / Blah Blah Blah /Scuttlebutt

- The *Before Pearl Harbor* article was difficult to write coherently. Hope you could follow it. I added some Internet links to relevant articles at the bottom of page 5 if you want more detail. The circumstances occurring before the attack on Pearl Harbor seem relevant to me as regards the public perspective on the Russian invasion of Ukraine (and the concern for China’s interest in Taiwan). If these conflicts continue to fester, what might we expect to happen? Maybe that sounds like a reach, but thin about it.
- The Base meeting Saturday (March 25) will include a discussion of the situation with the HVAC aboard the *Razorback*. One of the four units is out and needs to be replaced. Another system is having issues suggesting it is about to fail. They are expensive to replace. They have been increasingly problematic. The units are around 15 years old. I am not sure, but doubt there are other geo-thermal units like them in Arkansas; and I believe there is only one company that can work on the unique units. This is a personal perspective, but I believe all the units need to be replaced, probably with a different HVAC technology. AIMM does not have capital funding to handle the potential significant costs. The Base will be considering how it might help.
- The Base has problems scheduling activities at convenient times and places for our membership. Two fundamental problems are that we are spread all over Arkansas and, like me, we are getting a bit older. One activity I have casually mentioned to some members is the informal creation of smaller groups that meet occasionally (breakfast or whatever) for fellowship. Maybe they could even extend it a little with volunteer activities locally in their community. We do have some concentration of members in at least a few areas like central Arkansas, the Russellville area and possibly Hot Springs/Hot Springs Village.. Possibly an idea some of you might want to consider?
- Finally, please consider suggested activities for the Base. We always can use ideas for how to observe Memorial Day, Veterans Day and the Pearl Harbor observance.



BIRTHDAYS

March

Frank C. Tillery 4
 Michael D. Drew 7
 Joe E. Ward 23
 Greg Schwerman 23
 Richard Ewing Childs 26
 Bonny M. Schmidt 27
 Frederick R. Wright, Jr. 31

April

Adrian M. Wills 2
 Richard Wayne McCarstle 4
 Edward John Alves 5
 Herbert F. Wise 8
 Bobby L. Barge 9
 Tom Desaulniers 11
 Robert David McBride 14
 Harold D. Haislip III 15
 Stephen Carneal 16
 James W. Morehouse 18
 Paul Harless 23

May

Robert B. Hickey 3
 Greg Zonner 3
 Suzann W. Barr 5
 Joe Manning 6
 George R. Conro 9
 Dominador F. Alvarado 10
 Steven David Shelton 12
 Robert C. Sykes 13
 Thomas R. McLeod 14
 John A. Harrel, Jr. 20
 Wayne Herbert Welch 23
 Lowell Royce Blue 26
 Marcial M. Pamintuan 31

June

John C. Barr 7
 John Hertzberg 8
 Ronald W. Hines 9
 David B. Boyer 12
 Clifford Thomas Swires 17
 Curtis D. Borud 17
 Calvin Moon 18
 Victoria Baker 18
 William N. Smith 20
 Frederick 'Carl' Schmidt 21
 Harold D. Butler 23
 James F. Franks 30

TREASURER'S REPORT - February 2023

TOTAL BASE FUNDS BEGINNING BALANCE	\$13,703.68
General Fund Beginning Balance	\$4,622.75
<u>Credits</u>	
Deposit 2/10 - \$40 (\$15 base, \$25 to send to USSVI; D. Dinwiddle)	
Deposit 1/13 - \$355 (\$55 booster club, \$300 USSVI; J. Archer)	\$395.00
<u>Debits</u>	
none this period	
General Fund Ending Balance	\$5,017.75
Designated Funds	
Maintenance Fund starting Balance	\$1,952.66
Maintenance Fund Ending Balance	\$1,952.66
Charity Fund Bal.	\$372.00
Snook Mem. Fund Bal.	\$1,386.86
Designated Fund Balance	\$3,711.52
Checking Balance (General + Designated Funds)	\$8,729.27
Other Funds	
Savings - Cash Balance	\$5,369.41
Cash on Hand	
TOTAL BASE FUNDS ENDING BALANCE	\$14,098.68
Submitted: 2 FEB 2023	
Pete Jilek	
Base Treasurer	
Notes for next month:	
Need to send \$325 to USSVI for national dues (Archer and Dinwiddle)	

Funds from the *Booster Club* will be used for restoration of the *USS Razorback* and other special projects appropriate to the mission of *USSVI*. Your donation will be recognized for 1 year in the newsletter. The number beside your name is the month and year until you will be listed. Send donations to Razorback Base – USSVI, 9 Broadview Dr., Little Rock, AR 72207-5113 (Memo – Booster Club).

Name	Exp.
Pete Jilek	17-Nov-23
John C. Barr	3-Nov-23
John Archer	13-Jan-24



**2023 RAZORBACK BASE JANUARY MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 21, 2023**

Invocation presented by Al Malone
 Pledge of Allegiance led by Al Malone
 Recitation of the Creed by Al Malone
 Tolling of the Boats for January presented by Joe Mathis
 Moment Silence for our departed Shipmates
 Treasurer's report
 Total finances = \$13,000
 Paid national dues of \$1010

Discussion on status of Mary Christians life membership. Many of us stated that she was a Life Member of USSVI and has been paying base Unfinished business—There was no unfinished business.

New Business

Plan of activities for 2023

dues annually. Johnnie will send a letter of apology to Mary and Greg Schwerman will research history of her membership.

Jan - Meeting	Aug - USSVI convention
Feb 18 - Breakfast followed by volunteering as additional tour guides as desired	Sep - Potluck and Meeting in Evening
Mar 18 - Meeting at AIMM	Oct 27 - Navy birthday ball (looking at attending Reservist Ball)
Apr - Sub Ball	Nov 11- Veterans Day
May - Murrays Dinner Theater	Dec 9 - Christmas Party
June 17 - Picnic and Meeting	

Several events will be planned for the actual date if not listed as we get closer and we can pick the best time.

DUES

Three members need to pay National Dues

Pete Jilek made a motion to investigate allowing dues payments using Debit Cards. John Barr Seconded. All approved Discussion was held on having a membership drive and Greg Schwerman will work with new member, Sterling Claypoole to come up with a drive.

GEOHERMAL UNIT REPLACEMENT ON RAZORBAC,

The forward battery geo thermal unit froze during the deep freeze last week and will need replacement. This will be a Capital project and Joe mentioned that there is probably not enough in the 2023 capital budget to support its replacement.

Discussion was held on using Razorback Base maintenance fund monies and USSV CF Memorial fund monies to assist in this project. Ray stated that we could get up to \$3000 in matching funds from the Memorial fund.

Joe will check with Greg to determine how much AIMM could afford to pay towards this project and then we will move forward upon receipt of estimate and invoice.

Ray Wewers made motion to adjourn. Second by Joe Mathis..

Meeting adjourned at 1425

Base Officers

Base Commander	Alan Malone	501-206-7248	o5retired@yahoo.com
Base Vice Commander	Greg Schwerman	501-804-0386	gschwerman@suddenlink.net
Base Treasurer/Storekeeper	Pete Jilek	301-503-0483	pljilek@yahoo.com
Chief of the Boat	Joe Mathis	501-765-0166	rmc95ret05@gmail.com
Chaplain	Joe Manning	501-366-0331	joe.manning@att.net
Holland Club	Jim Franks	501-915-0502	jimfranks@suddenlink.net
Memorials & Ceremonies	Billy Hollaway	501-758-3266	retldousn@earthlink.net
Yeoman & Activities	Ray Wewers	479-967-5541	raywewers@gmail.com
Membership	Johnnie Baker	501-605-0594	johnnie@smarthomeintegration.net
Base Newsletter	John C. Barr	501-993-3953	jcbarr346@att.net
Base Web Master	Greg Zonner	501-307-5522	gzonner@aimmmuseum.org