

SCUTTLEBUTT



UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS
USS HADDO Base Quarterly Newsletter



Volume VI, Issue 1

January-February-March 2012



USS HADDO SSN604 Launched, Camden NJ., August 18, 1962

THE AMERICAN SUBMARINERS CREED

Our organization's 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".

US SUBMARINES LOST

JANUARY

USS Scorpion SS-278
USS Argonaut SS-166
USS Swordfish SS-193
S-36 SS-141
S-26 SS131

FEBRUARY

USS Barbel SS316
USS Shark I SS174
USS Amberjack SS219
USS Grayback SS-208
USS Trout SS-202

MARCH

USS Triton SS-201
H-1 SS-28
USS Grampus SS-207
USS Perch SS-176
USS Kete SS-369
F-4 SS-23
USS Tullibee SS-284

◆ USS HADDO Base Officers ◆

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Did You Know?		USSVI Convention	Sept 2-9
USS Darter, Tennessee Adopted WWII ,Sub	2	Veterans Day	Nov 11
President Authorizes Submarine Pay		Base Annual Christmas Party	Dec 8
Base Secretary Notice	3	Did you Know?	
News Around the Base		The first US President to ride in a submarine was Theodore Roosevelt on the USS Plunger SS-2 on March 25th 1905.	
Sarah Jennings Briefs the Base	3	After his two hour tour he authorized Submarine Hazard Duty pay. Enlisted personnel received \$10. month and \$1.00 per day at sea.	
Three Queens & Valentines Day	3	The first US President to travel on a nuclear submarine was Dwight D Eisenhower, aboard the USS Seawolf SS-575. Submerged tour was 15 minutes, September 26, 1957.	
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Did You Know?			
			
		The USS Darter SS-277, a WWII Submarine was lost on October 24, 1944. The WWII namesake, USS Darter was adopted by the State of Tennessee and a plaque to that effect is located in Nashville.	
In Memoriam			
			
		<p>CHRISTODOULOU, JR., Nicholas (Nick), Age 86 of Nashville. March 7, 2012. Born October 1, 1925 in Welch, West Virginia, passed away suddenly at his home on March 7, 2012. Survived by son, Larry (Rita) Christodoulou; grand children, Hayley and Brian of Brentwood (TN). Preceded in death by his father, Nicholas Christodoulou, Sr.; mother, Cecelia Weinberger; sister, Marie Fox (MX). Nick was a veteran of <u>WWII</u>; he served in the <u>US Navy</u> aboard the submarine USS Scabbardfish SS 397 . He was a wonderful father and grandfather. In his civilian life he worked for many years in the Ford Motor Company, Nashville Glass Plant. In his later years Nick was active in the commissioning committees of both USS Tennessee and USS West Virginia ballistic submarines. He was a long time member of the Submarine Veteran organization nationally and locally including the Haddo Base and Volunteer Chapters in Tennessee. Nick authored several books and articles on history and submarine history. He served as a member of the Masonic Association, Blue Lodge (Observance Lodge), York Rite & Scottish Rite He always had a positive attitude toward life and loved people he knew. He was never a stranger to anyone that was lucky enough to cross paths with him. Three words sum up his life: History-Heritage-Legacy. The USS HADDO Base conducted a USSVI memorial service at the request of the immediate family with the participation of the Volunteer and Smoky Mountain Bases. Arrangements are in progress to cast Nick's ashes to sea from the USS Tennessee SSBN-726. Nick will be missed, he was one of the few Hero's, (WWII Submarine Veterans) from the HADDO Base, he loved the Navy and was very proud of his service on board a submarines during WWII. Base members, who had the opportunity to meet with him these past years will always remember his quick wit, humor and love of his country.</p> <p><u>Nick, rest your oar we have the watch.</u></p>	

The Three Queens & Valentines Day

February 11, 2012 The HADDO Base honored the three Associate Members who actively participate in Base Operations.

Diane Meagher has been the Base newsletter editor for over three years.

Evelyn Lynch is the Sunshine Committee Chair since the Base was established in 2006. Evelyn is the widow of Lester Lynch who served on the first USS Haddo SS-255 during WWII.

Billie Bea Heltz is the Base Librarian, of the Haddo Base Library on Submarine related literature. Billie distributes three books at each meeting to lucky members who win the privilege of selecting a book with the promise to return it the following meeting.

All three ladies have served the Base extremely well and we are proud to have them as part of the Base and we also celebrated Evelyn's 90th Birthday at this meeting.

HAPPY HAPPY BIRTHDAY
EVELYN!!



Associate Base Members "The Three Queens"
(L-R) Diane Meagher, Evelyn Lynch & Billie Bea Heltz

Base Secretary Notice:

The Haddo Base newsletter "SCUTTLEBUTT" has a new editor and new look. The previous editor, Diane Meagher after three plus years has chosen not to continue. Diane has done a great job and the Base members "Thank You" for your service.

Welcome the new editor, Dean Heltz. Dean is a Holland Club member receiving his dolphins on the USS Segundo SS-398 in 1955. Dean retired as a Latin language teacher. News articles for the letter may be sent to Dean via e-mail at: deanheltz@yahoo.com.

Also please note the newsletter will be sent by e-mail to all base members in a PDF file, as an attachment. Hard copy of the newsletter will be sent to non e-mail base members.

It is time again to remind all members that the Membership Chairman diligently keeps accurate records and when a member changes his e-mail address we need to be notified of any changes.

Richard Noble

Sarah Jennings Briefs HADDO Base

January 14, 2012 Sarah Jennings, ABC Affiliate, Channel 9 Chattanooga, was the guest speaker for the January Base meeting. Sarah teaches communications at the University of Tennessee and is an anchor at the Channel 9 News Desk.

The presentation was how the Base could get their message out utilizing all media outlets. As part of her presentation she provided the Base with a list of all radio stations, TV stations and printed media addresses, phone numbers and points of contact.

Comments from base members were that her talk was well prepared and that she has a very bubbling personality. The information handout will prove to be very useful for the Base. **Oh**, did I forget to mention that Sarah is the wife of Base member Richie King? After the presentation the members voted that Richie should be the Base Communication Officer. The vote was unanimous.



Sarah makes her point!

USSVI, HADDO Base Travels to the Alvin C. York Veterans Home & Hospital, Murfreesboro Tennessee

February 18, 2012, Thirteen Base members and wives of the USS HADDO Base held an ice cream social at the Alvin C. York Veterans Center in Murfreesboro Tennessee. Ice Cream bars were donated by Mayfield 's Dairy and the oatmeal cookies were donated by McKee Bakery. Groome's Transportation provided a van for members transportation to and from the facility. Approximately 50% of the residents are diabetic, and Mayfield provided ample amount of low sugar product to support this condition. Mr. Lee Piccirillo, Recreation Director, knew the residents personally and guided us through the facility.



Base Chaplain Reed Melton & Patient



Richard Noble, Lee Piccirillo, Rec. Director & Patient

A first some Base personnel were a little apprehensive about seeing our former comrades in this condition, but as soon as we thanked them for their service and offered them cookies and ice cream, it was like we were all old buddies again. We visited and served them for over 3 hours. One veteran was a Navy diver who had worked on submarines. A nurse set aside her food tray and stated "this can wait", with a twinkle in her eye" began eating her ice cream while talking with us for a long time. Several others were willing to speak of their past service once the ice was broken. An old destroyer sailor who sat in his wheel chair and was assisted with oxygen, had a few short sea stories to tell. When we were leaving the recreational area we noticed the sailor proudly wearing his U.S. Navy ball cap.

It was comforting to know these veterans are being taken care of in place like the Veteran's home for the sick and aged. The consensus of the members was, this outing was both rewarding and



More Photos
on
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USS HADDO Base members, Associate members and wives at the Alvin C. York Facility
L-R Front Row Associate Member Billie Bea Heltz, Marie Noble, Jane Tucker and Lee Tucker
L-R Row 2 Dean Heltz, Richard Noble, Mike Stracke, Reed Melton, Base Commander Brian Meagher and Diane Meagher
L-R Row 3 Larry Krause, Judy Sims and George Sims

News from USSVI National

The USSVI has a extensive online Submarine museum available to all to see. You can view it from either FACEBOOK or from the Web. Here is a link to a short YOUTUBE video on how to use it.

<http://youtu.be/KDNIJ0WPfvk>

If you are FACEBOOK adverse, here is a direct link to some of the albums. (no sign-in needed)

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/USSVI.Museum.online/photos>

It is not necessary for persons to belong to USSVI to use these resources, but I do think anyone who earned the 'fish' we so proudly wear should seriously consider joining and support our rich heritage as submarine veterans.

This short "School of the Boat" video shows how to access the online USSVI Museum on Face book. If you like it , be sure to click the "like' button so that you are kept up to date with the changes that are happening there.

<http://youtu.be/KDNIJ0WPfvk>

From The Base Commander's Desk

The first months of 2012 had a busy start. We have established a nominating committee which includes, Billie Bea Heltz, Pete Haskins, and Michael Coulter to provide nominees for the upcoming election of officers. The base has voted on an agenda for special events like an, annual picnic, and annual Christmas party. We are also working to establish other events. At our March meeting, Joe Davis of Bradley County Veteran's Affairs spoke about the possible veteran's home in Bradley County.

I want to thank every member for their support of the base. I tried to summarize our first 3 months so those members who did not attend meetings would know what the Haddo Base was involved in.

At your service,
Brian Meagher

Updates on Recent Veterans Issues

March 10, 2012 Bradley County Veterans Affairs Officer, Mr. Joe Davis was the speaker at the March Meeting. Joe provided an up-date on the progress of the Veterans Home (110 Bed facility) to be built in Bradley County. This Facility will be a new design with cottages clustered on the property instead of the present spider design with medical support in the hub.

In 2011 the home was number forty seven on the US Government Veterans Administrations Budget and has slipped to number fifty-one on the 2012 list. Joe said that it might be 2-3 years before the Veterans Administration will release the funding as the annual list priority starts with repairs and additions to facilities first, followed by building new homes. The property has been secured, inspected and approved by the Tennessee Veterans Board. The City of Cleveland, Bradley County, State of Tennessee and private funding for a total of 35% has been secured. The only thing holding up the construction is the Federal matching funds of 65%. It was suggested that we contact our local Congressman and Senator expressing our concern to when the funding will be released. Our local Congressman is Chuck Fleishman, (423) 746-2342 and the Senator is Bob Corker, (423)756-2757.

· Welcome Aboard! (New Members)

The HADDO Base has increased its membership since last quarter by enrolling five new members. The Base membership now stands at **93** members.

Larry Krause, received his dolphins in **1972** on the USS Narwhal SSN-671

Roger Wise, received his dolphins in **1976** on the USS Hawkbill SSN-666

Dennis Witzenburg, received his dolphins in **1968** on the USS Volador SS-490

Bruce Cantrelle, received his dolphins in **1997** on the USS Louisiana SSBN-743

James H Hulsey, received his dolphins in **1944** on the USS Blueback SS-326

HADDO Base members welcomes you one and all.

News from the Librarian

The Haddo Base Librarian has over 77 books available to Base members. This Library inventory contains notable local authors such as Charlie Odom, Smoky Mountain Base member, authored, "War beneath the Waves"

Nicholas Christodoulou, JR. Haddo Base member, who recently departed on Eternal Patrol has authored the following books:

"Musing in My Later Years"

"Taking a Tour of a Diesel Boat"

"Stew Burners"

"Welcome to Nick's Seven Seas Restaurant"

"NTAHS Gabyrhea"

Ron Eytchison, Haddo Base, has published his biography, "Cold War Sailor" a great read.

All books are Submarine related topics.

See the Base Librarian Bille Bea Heltz and sample some good reading.

More Feature Article Pictures.



Diane Meagher preparing the cookie cart



Dean Heltz swapping sea stories with a patient



Base Commander Brian Meagher listening to a short tale

USS HADDO Base History

The USS HADDO Base was form in July 2006 with five Plank owners living in locally. The group, Tony DeNicola, Larry Page, Tom Rush, John Viney and Richard Noble were at a loss to name the Base. After a lengthily conversation with the Eastern District Commander, Dick Kanning, he suggested to name the Base USS HADDO since the original five charter members were part of the commissioning crew. Since the group had no other suggestions it was so named. The USS HADDO Base held its first open meeting at the Golden Corral Restaurant, in Cleveland TN on the second Saturday of August 2006.

After the first Base meeting the Base was made aware that a widow of shipmate Lester Lynch who served on the original USS HADDO SS-255 was interested in belonging to the Base as an Associate Member. The first order of business of the Executive Board was to make her a Life member of USSVI and USS HADDO Base..



Passing out cookies & ice cream in one of recreation areas

