

Sea Poacher Association

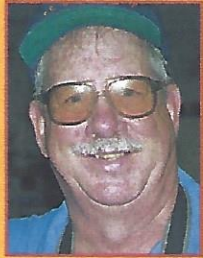


*Dedicated to the men who served
on this great fighting ship!*



Volume 6, Issue 2

April 2008



**From the
President:**

Bill Brinkman

seapoacher@austin.rr.com

Reunion May 22-24, 2008 Jacksonville, FL

Our Reunion 2008 host JJ Lynch has put together a great Reunion. He has helpers on the Raffle, Auction, Trips and Banquet and believe me he'll maintain the high level of Reunions which we've come to expect (thanks, Cal Cochrane 2004 Charleston, SC and Ivan Joslin 2006 Virginia Beach, VA). Wait till you see the Gift Bags.

Also this year we're making the chance to win two raffle items available to those members who cannot attend the Reunion. These items are the accurate model of the USS Sea Poacher with the North Atlantic sail (1962-1969) and a wonderful painting donated by the family of the late Captain Lawrence Stahl (CO 1959-1961).

Speaking of the Auction/Raffle, you'd better bring your check-book as we truly have some great items such as quilts with many SS406 pictures on them made by Pauline Sheldon and Lin Jackson.

Also, JJ is going to stock the hospitality Room with snacks and drinks and we'll spend some quality time there in between the events.

Currently, we have 100 people signed up for the Reunion and we expect about 140 by Reunion time.

Our Book : We Remember Sea Poacher by her Crew 1944-Present

Great news, our Book has arrived! Lanny, JJ, and I have sent out or delivered 325 copies so far.

Those of you with e-mail have all ready been contacted to please send in your check to pay for the book(s) that you ordered.

For those of you without e-mail, send me \$29 for each copy that you ordered for pick up at the Reunion or \$34 each for copies to be mailed to you.

We only have an extra 20 copies at this time. Lanny is checking on the costs for a second run of books.

So, if you haven't ordered a copy, now's the time to do so!!

For those of you attending the Reunion, bring a copy of the Book with you as we're going to have an "Author Signing Session" where the authors will sign their chapters in your Book.

Reunion 2010

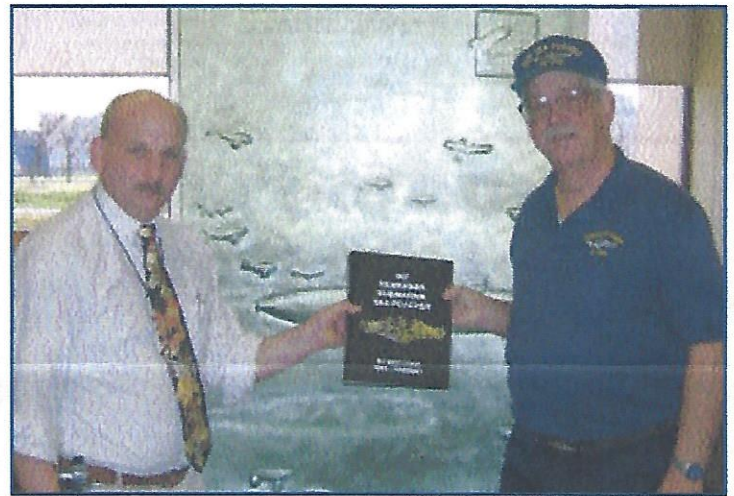
Per our By-Laws, we must decide on the location and date for

our 2010 Reunion at the Business meeting May 23, 2008 during the 2008 Reunion.

Please think about where you would like the next reunion to be.

Also, and more importantly, please consider being the "Host" and make a bid with me prior to the Reunion!

It would be great to have two or more committees making their bids to the Business Meeting attendees!!



Above: Bill presents a copy of Sea Poacher book to the Lawrence Clemens, Head Librarian at the United States Naval Academy. They are standing in front of the USS Thresher/USS Scorpion Memorial inside Nimitz Library

Below: Head Librarian for the Library of Congress, J. Mansfield accept a copy of our book.



List of Reunion Attendees

If your name is not here or you see some whom you haven't seen and would like to, then please come to the Reunion in Jacksonville in May.

Acor, Bob & Carolyn	Elmore, David	Kinnie, Phil	Reiche, Larry and Gloria
Allers, Paul & Betsy	Ensminger, Jack & Lori	Laake, Richard & Joann	Ritz, Bob & Nancy
Anihony, Ted & Fay	Evans, Frank & Mary Jane	Law, Troy & Earline	Romeo, John & Agnes
Ashendon, Ed & Deborah	Ferris, Richard & Marjorie	Lawson, Carroll & Jan	Rosina, Sal & Helen
Bernhard, Truman	Fontes, Ernest	LeBlanc, Gail	Saell, John
Bishop, Doug & Joan	Fox, Dick & Shirley	Lee, Ted & Kiki	Scallan, Herman & Mary Ann
Bradley, Bob	Fraley, Ron	Lemmerman, Jim & Joyce	Schenker, Marvin & Helene
Bridwell, Deldre	Godwin, Ron	Lewis, Carl & Marleen	Schindhelm, Bob & Martha
Brinkman, Lin & Lin	Gorsuch, Billy	Lundy, Nat & Betty	Sheldon, Bennie & Pauline
Buckley, William & Mary	Green, David	Lynch, JJ & Sonja	Smock, Rick
Carlson, Rick & Ruth Ann	Halbert, Jim & Roseann	Marion, Ken & Jean	Snook, John & Annette
Carrey, Richard	Hallam, John & Sandra	Markham, Mark & Kaye	Socha, Rick
Carr, Leo & Helen	Hale, Carl & Carol	McNabb, Ken & Geraldine	Sohl, John & Audrey
Clubb, Richard & Nancy	Harms, Dave & Kay	Merritt, Jack & Sandra	Stokes, Marty & Enda
Cobb, Ralph & Joyce	Hockroth, Ray & Francis	Merritt, Ty & Patricia	Suttie, Glen & Karen
Cochrane, Cal & Joyce	Hickey, David	Murdoch, Joe & Stella	Thompson, Ed
Coutu, Gerry & Myrtle	Holtz, Dick	Nagle, Gary & Nancy	Thompson, Tom & Roberta
Davis, Carl & Marchlena	Houchens, Jerry	Nagle, Jon & Gazle	Turbeville, Albert & Jean
Deesa, Richard & Brenda	Huggins, Harry	Nelin, Thomas & Anna Mae	Waldrop, James
Dempsey, Gene & Shirley	Jackson, Hubert & Lin	Nims, Jack	Weinfurter, Arne
Dusley, Thomas	Jennison, Dick	Polen, Tom & Polly	Weinfurter, Larry & Arlene
Dickey, Betty	Joslin, Ivan & Marjorie	Powers, Jim & Trish	Weindryzn, Ray & Jackie
Dorheim, Mertyn & Shirley	Julien, Tom & Mary	Potest, Rudy & Shirley	Wilkinson, Don & Gale
Dubbs, Jack	Kassinger, Mike & Marge	Rager, Charles	Young, Jerome & Frances
Dukacz, Duke & Diane	Keller, David	Reed, Dewey & Dottie	
Easley, Jack	Kindelberga, Roy & Kris		

Reunion 08 Registration Form

May 22-24, 2008
Jacksonville, Florida

Shipmate _____

1st Mate _____

Guest(s) _____

Number Totals _____

SubBase Tour May 22 @ \$15 ea= \$ _____

River Cruise May 23 @ \$30 ea= \$ _____

St. Augustine Trip May 24 @ \$25 ea= \$ _____

Banquet May 24 @ \$40 ea= \$ _____

Grand Total due \$ _____

Make Check to " USS Sea Poacher" and mail to:
Bill Brinkman
4500 Tiffany Nicole ST
Round Rock, TX 78665-9466

REMINDER: If you wish to tour SubBase you must have submitted a security form which is available either from

Membership Roll

The following is a list of paid-up members. Are you on this list? If not, why not?

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Robert Abbott	Fred Edwards	Gail LeBlanc	Herman Scallan
Bob Acor	Leon Eggleston	Frank Lederer	Bob Schindhelm
Charles Ahler	Dick Elliott	Ted Lee	Karl Schipper
Dewey Akins	David Elmore	Jim Lemerman	Ron Schnars
Paul Allers	Jack Ensminger	John Love	Russell Schondorf
Peter Amunrud	Garl Eubank	Jerry Loveless	Donald Schwartz
Dave Andres	Frank Evans	Nathan Lundy	William Sharp
Ted Anthony	Buster Flaskas	Bill Luttrell	Harry Sherman
Charles Auclair	Dante Fortini	J.J. Lynch	Rick Smock
George Axford	Richard Fox	John Mach	John Snook
Vernon Barnett	Ron Fraley	John Majzun	Fred Socha
Robert Beers	Harold Gall	Ken Manion	Bill Sololoski
Harvey Benson	Larry Garrett	Mark Markham	Richard Stickney
Carol Berge	Arthur Geddes	Robert Matheny	Marty Stokes
Truman Bernhard	Jack Gentry	Jim McClanahan	Chuck Strand
Doug Bishop	Ed Gibbon	David McCollum	David Strunk
Kenneth Bonnell	Ron Godwin	T. McCommas	Tom Sugden
Bob Bradley	Billy Gorsuch	Carl McCutcheon	Robert Sumner
Bill Brinkman	Dave Green	Jack Merrill	Terry Tague
Jim Burgett	Eugene Guibault	Ty Merritt	Chester Taylor
Russ Burrows	Paul Gusler	Eddie Montz	Ed Thompson
Frank Calderone	Carl Hale	Joe Murdoch	Ron Thompson
Alice Calvert	John Hallam	William Murphy	T. Thompson
Dick Carney	Dave Harms	Lester Murray	Richard Trench
Leo Carr	Frances Heckroth	Joe Musgrave	James Tryon
Kent Carroll	Bill Hellmer	Gary Nagle	John Tulodeski
John Chaich	Robert Henry	Jon Nagle	Al Turbeville
Richard Clubb	Darrell Hickman	John Nicholas	Tony Tuttobene
Ralph Cobb	Lucy Higley	Jack Nims	Ed Urban
Cal Cochrane	Dick Holtz	Charles O'Baker	Don Waldrop
Lawrence Colwell	Robert Home	James Ochs	Arne Weinfurter
Bill Cook	Jerry Houchens	Paul Ogg	Larry Weinfurter
Robert Cooley	Harry Huggins	Ron Patterson	Ray Wengryzn
James Cooney	Carol Humphries	Tom Polen	James Weston
Gerry Coutu	Rod Ihrig	Jim Powers	Don Wilkinson
Bill Crismon	Hubert Jackson	John Rabuse	Olin Williams
Richard Dempsey	Richard Jennison	Charles Rager	George Wyse
Betty Dickey	Gerald Joseph	Dewey Reed	Lanny Yeske
William Dietrich	Ivan Joslin	Larry Reiche	Hope Young
William Donnelan	Mike Kassinger	David Richter	Jerry Young
Merlyn Dorheim	Allen Katen	Luke Riley	Robert Young
Tom Dueley	David Keffeler	David Ringland	
Bill Dukacz	Ken Kile	Robert Ritz	
Daniel Dybala	Terry Kleinweber	Salvatore Rosina	
Richard Earl	Richard Laake	Robert Roth	
Jack Easley	Troy Law	Martin Ruch	
Daniel Eberhardt	Carroll Lawson	John Savory	



MEMBERS

Richard Bernotet	Wayne Holmgren	John Saell
Ray Binns	Gerald Keffer	Bennie Sheldon
Donald Blomquist	Roy Kindleberger	John Sohl
Fred Brattain	Ray Krivascy	Glen Suttie
Bill Buckley	William (Jess) Lee	Fred Vavra
Richard Carlson	Jerry Loveless	Andrew Viers
Frank Gauiffeld	Julius O'Bannon	Richard Whitmire
George Childs	Dan McLaren	
Don Cipra	Jim McSorley	
Dennison Compton	Mark Mordecal	
Walter Culp	William Parhamenko	
James Deming	Walter Patrick	
Ray Dicare	Dale Peterson	
John Dubbs	Mark Richwine	
Richard Ferris	Clyde Riggard	
Carl Headland	Martin Ruch	

If your name does not appear here . . . Why not???? Please help support your association!!!! Dues are \$10 per year or \$100 for a life membership. Please make check payable to "Sea Poacher Association" and Mail to: Bill Brinkman, 4500 Tiffany Nicole St., Round Rock, TX 78664-9468



Editor's Corner

Jack Merrill

sebagojack@hotmail.com

As we prepare for our upcoming reunion, a couple of things need to be highlighted. JJ Lynch has done a superb job coordinating all the events and should be commended. Also, Sherry Sontag, one of the authors of *Blind Man's Bluff* will be the principal speaker at the banquet. She has graciously agreed to autograph one copy for you. So if you haven't already obtained a copy, I would suggest you go out and purchase one today.

She will not be selling any books at the reunion.

As usual, we need lots of raffle items. If you have anything you want to donate bring them along. It is not necessary that they be submarine related although that is always good. See ya'll in Jacksonville.

As lot has been said about what a great organization the Sea Poacher Association is. That is really true, but only because of the support that you, the members, give.

I, personally, have been very humbled with the help that I get when searching for shipmates to present or participate in the presentation of the Sea Poacher Memorial Plaque.

This means a great deal to the next-of-kin. and speaking for the rest of the officers . . . THANK YOU!



From the Web Guru:

Jon K. Nagle

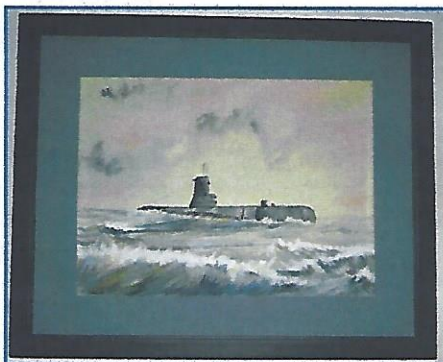
jondryvac@aol.com

Here I sit struggling to create a newsletter item under the Torpedoman Task Master (TTM), Jack Merrill and his deadline. I can't think of anything to say so I look up the web site "seapoacher.com" again to see what has been submitted.

Reading all the newsletters makes me feel proud to have served with the greatest bunch of guy's in the submarine service. Reading all the "sea stories" takes me back in time to day's of my youth. The "In Memoriam" page brings me to the reality that my name, too, will someday be on this page, put there by a later web page guru. And the picture's! I can't believe there are so many pictures from so many shipmates, son's and daughter's of shipmates and, sometimes, complete strangers whose lives somehow crossed with the 406.

Anyhow, I still need an article so the the TTM will stop bugging me. I know! I'll make it short and sweet. IF YOU HAVEN'T TOLD YOUR KIDS AND GRAND KIDS ABOUT THE WEB SITE – GET OFF YOUR LAZY ASS BUTT AND DO SO – TODAY!!

ATTENTION: USS SEA POACHER SHIPMATES!



1st — This wonderful, framed, 23 1/4 x 23 1/4" watercolor of Sea Poacher was commissioned by CO Larry Stahl in 1960 and painted by Gerald Levey. This is one of his first paintings. Gerald is now a world renowned marine artist. His work can be seen at www.geraldlevey.com. The painting has some blemishes but is generally in very good condition. This piece of artwork is a donation by the Stahl family to the Sea Poacher Association. It is nicely matted in a 33x27" frame.

The proceeds
of the painting
raffle will go to
the the
Memorial
Fund

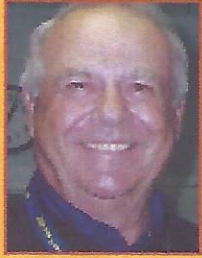
Raffle



2nd — This is a new, beautiful model of Submarine Sea Poacher. Length: 21", Base is: 24x6". Retail price: \$400.

Here's the way it will work.

Send a check for \$5 for each raffle ticket (\$20 FOR 6 TICKETS) you wish to purchase, made out to "Sea Poacher Association" to: Bill Brinkman, 4500 Tiffany Nichole St., Round Rock, TX 78665. Indicated on check on which items you are bidding. You may buy as many tickets as you like. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Jacksonville Reunion in May. Winners will be notified and also posted at: seapoacher.com.



406 Book Editor

Lanny Yeske

doctoryeske@yahoo.com

Our Book Completed and in Distribution

I was not expecting our WE REMEMBER SUBMARINE SEA POACHER book until this month, but it was completed in late January. All 629 pages with a hard leather cover!

We ordered 450 copies, but were given an extra 7 by Joyce Maddox, our Warwick House Publisher in Lynchburg, VA, and her printer in Ann Arbor, MI. Bill Brinkman, JJ Lynch, and myself decided they should mail each of us 1/3 of the books, with those to JJ to be distributed at the Reunion, and those to Bill and I to be mailed out at the same time.

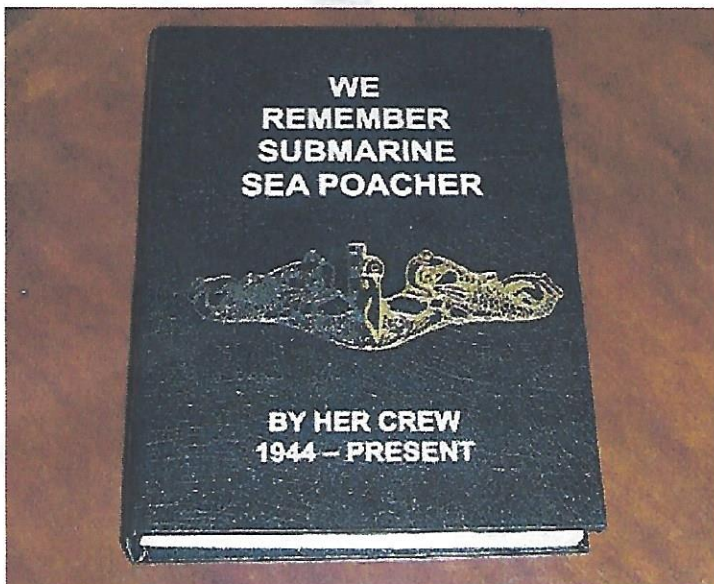
Then Bill got concerned about each of us having several thousand dollars worth of books on hold and the possibilities of fire, water, mildew or other damage in the four month period before the Reunion .

So, we thought to distribute them as soon as possible, and it really didn't make much sense to wait until May.

Bill and I have each mailed out or hand delivered to shipmates in our local area about 130 copies each. JJ has retained enough books for the Reunion attendees and also hand delivered a good 75 copies in Florida, Georgia and California in his travels. The book orders have continued and we have less than 20 remaining at this time.

For those of you who have not seen the book, here is a photo of our coffee table size book actually on a coffee table.

The publisher/printer book cost was about \$22.50 per copy. Add to that the packaging material, insurance, and media mail post office charges and the total book cost is about \$25 per copy. The Association will make a profit of about \$4 per copy or about \$1,800 on that part of it. Regards the shipment costs, we actually lost \$1 to \$2 on every one book shipment, but recouped those losses on larger shipments. While the figures are not finalized, I would think



Boxes of book stacked in front of Lanny's front door waiting to be delivered.

we will make maybe \$200 on the shipping, so the total profit should be \$2,000. Treasurer Carroll Lawson will have those figures for the Reunion .

More importantly, we have a fantastic record of our boat that all you authors can be very proud of. I am very pleased with it, and I thank you again for your assistance, cooperation, and support during the over one year process to complete it. There are so many persons to thank, and I have done that in the book, so I need not do it again. Our publisher did a superb job and judging from the emails and phone calls you agree.

Yes, there are a few typos and I can live with those. I am sorry for not properly crediting Bob Sumner for two 1961 photos of him with his 1938 Buick at the Charleston Submarine Barracks and with him in front of the Sea Poacher model in the next photograph. I6 accidentally credited Bob Henry. I also missed Ron Godwin as an Ensign and omitted a line or two in his text. I have a small errata sheet with these corrections, and will distribute it sometime after the May Reunion.

Will there be a second printing of our Book? I am not planning on it. But we could do it, without leather cover and high gloss photos, as with those a second printing is over \$40 in costs alone. Something a bit less and the publisher said it would look good, might cost \$5 a copy more. Do we really need it? Let us wait and see if there is a demand.

USS Dolphin Hero Dies

April 19, 2007

By Michael Kinsman
STAFF WRITER

In May 2002, Chief Petty Officer John Wise was hailed as a hero for his role in preventing the sinking of the submarine Dolphin (AGSS555) when the vessel started taking on water 100 miles off the San Diego coast.

Wise spent 90 minutes in cold, neck-deep water in the darkness of the Dolphin's pump room that night, trying to keep valves open so emergency pumps could suck out the seawater that was flooding the sub. All 43 people aboard survived.

Yet Mr. Wise's actions that night didn't surprise the sub's commanding officer, Capt. Stephen Kelety.

"John was the kind of guy who had the tenacity to stick things out, and he showed that day after day in his life," said Kelety. "It wasn't that he did this heroic thing for one night – he did it every day."

John David Wise II died Monday at UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles after a four-year battle with colon cancer. He was 42.

Mr. Wise was born in San Francisco and grew up in San Mateo.

"When he was a little kid, he loved the military," his wife, Tessa, said. "I think since the age of 2 he wanted to be in the military."

But it wasn't until he joined the Navy in 1988 that he realized how much it meant to him.

"Once he was in, I think he realized that is where he should be," his wife said.

Mr. Wise became a machinist's mate, but nothing could prepare him for the night of May 21, 2002.

That night the Dolphin was participating in torpedo tests when it surfaced to recharge its batteries and heavy seas sent water cascading through its single hatch.

Responding to an alarm, Mr. Wise went to the control room, where he found water had risen to within 10 inches of the pump room's ceiling.

"I'd never seen this much water in a space," he later recalled.

Mr. Wise and others braved the floodwater to keep the pumps running, but the vessel's main electrical system shorted out, causing sparks and smoke.

"We were taking on a ton of seawater every two seconds," Kelety said. "At the rate we were taking on water, we probably only had one or two minutes left before we sank."

Kelety ordered the crew to abandon ship, but several sailors reined aboard to fight the flooding and small fires.

By the time the ship was abandoned, the engines had been shut down and all hatches secured. The Dolphin's 41 sailors and two civilians were rescued from the sea by the research vessel William McGaw, which was about 100 yards away and operating with the



submarine, by the frigate Thach or by the Coast Guard.

The sub was later towed back to port in San Diego.

The guys I needed at the end were the machinist mates, one of whom was John Wise," Kelety said. "He showed extreme honor, courage and dedication."

Seven months later Mr. Wise was honored with the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, one of the military's highest noncom-

bat awards. Eleven other Dolphin sailors also received various medals because of what they did to save the ship. After repairs, the Dolphin returned to service in 2005.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Wise is survived by his sons, John David Wise III and Blake Austin Wise, all of Murrieta; his parents, John David and Ellen Wise of Lake Elsinore; and, a sister, Lynett Meyers of Reno.

A memorial service for Mr. Wise will be held at 1 p.m. Friday at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery.

His body will be cremated and the family will scatter the ashes in a private ceremony.

Note:

Less than a year after completing a \$50 million project to repair and upgrade the San Diego-based research vessel, the Navy decommissioned it on Sept. 22, 2006. It was the country's last diesel-electric submarine.

Dan Eberhardt EN 57-59



Memorial Fund

When a shipmate passes on the USS Sea Poacher Association presents, to their next of kin, a Memorial Plaque to commemorate their service to Sea Poacher. The plaque is a framed and matted picture taken from the bridge of Sea Poacher during the Cuban Crisis and superimposed over it is the Final Prayer as it appears on Page 6&7. It also indicates the years the individual served aboard. We decided that funding for this project should stand alone, so we are accepting contributions which may be made out to Sea Poacher Association and mailed to Association President, Bill Brinkman. Indicate "Memorial Fund".

FINAL PATROL

I have one consolation that lives with me today,
That God is near to them, in his own special way.
So, God in all Your mercy, keep near Yourself the soul,
Of every submariner, still on his final patrol.
Lord, these departed shipmates, with dolphins on their chests are part of
an outfit known as the best.
Make them welcome and take them by the hand.
You'll find without a doubt they were the best in all the land.
So, heavenly Father add their names to the roll of our departed ship-
mates still on patrol.
Let them know that we who survive will always keep their memories
alive.

Sailors Rest Your Oars . . .

Eduardo L. Abans, SD 68-69 – January 2000
Samuel W. Acree, ET 57 – October 2003
Bruce M. Adams, MoMM 44
Horace M. Adams, EN 63-64 – November 1987
Raymond E. Adcock, SN 47 – December 1974
Frank R. Alvis, LCDR, 53 – November 1987
John Austin, EN 69 – 1970's
Willie Austin, EM, 49-56
Robert P. Ayer, EN 60 – 1978
Donald E. Barnes, EM 46-49 – May 2002
Wayne E. Barton, TM 47-48 – 1997
Raymond Bassett, FT 64 – July 2000
Irwin Battle, MoMM 45-46 – July 2000
Harold R. Baumgartner, SK 63-64 – April 2006
Ray Bayans, EN 49 – November 1983
Richard Baybutt, FN 44-46 – December 2002
Robert Beers, LT 68-69 – September 2007
Robert A. Bergs, XO 57-58 – February 2007
Joseph Beuchler, TM 59-61 – September 1975
Reynold A. Binder, MoMM 46-47 – June 1993
Powell Blair, Pritc, 45 – April 1992
Charles Blanco, SD 48-49 – June 1994
Salvatore Blangiardi, EN 61 – June 2002
LuVern Blankenhagan, EM 59-60 – September 1998

Wesley L. Blankenship, TM 49 – October 1998
Jesus R. Blas, SD 49-50 – January 2000
Gerald O. Bludau, MM 61-62 – February 1986
Federick Boczon, EN 48-50 – May 1993
Joseph Bole, ET 50-51 – 1995
John Bornowski, TM/Ens 54-57 – December 1991
Joseph D. Boscarelli, CS 50 – October 2000
W. D. Boulton, 44
John S. Bour, EM 48-49 – July 1974
George Bracey, SD 58-59 – USS Thresher
Norris Bradley, SN 44-45
Norman Breeden, TM 49-50 – November 1993
Henry B. Brengleman, EM 49-54 – September 1968
Charles Breyman, HM 55-58 – November 1993
James Bridewell, ET, 63-67 – 1993
James A. Brink, Ens 44 – September 2003
Josephino F. Bugarin, TN 50-54
Everett N. Burbes, IC 51-52
James Burke, EN 44-46 – 1999
George J. Butkis, EN 62-63 – October 2003
Richard Byom, QM 51 – April 1976
Louis Cafone SN 44-45 – June 1981
Bobbie J. Calvert, FT 55-59 – October 2007
Nicholas G. Camera, EM 47 – July 1993

C. I. Cameron, CO 49-51
W. P. Cantwell Jr., LT 52
Olie L. Carden, EN 50-57 – February 1990
J.B. Carson, TM 53, 56-59 – April 1999
Clarence Carter, EM 45 – September 2003
Vinton Carver, QM 55-56 – December 1990
Murry Cherry, TM 48-49 – April 1984
Robert Chestnut, EN 59-62
Edwin Chubb, YN 49-51 – July 2006
Howard A. Coffman, HM 50-56 – 2004
Raymond Conahan, SA 49 – October 2001
Paul M. Conklin, SK 66-68 – August 1998
Harold Cook, TM 46-49 – September 2007
Quebert Cormier, EM 69 – March 2000
Arthur J. Cornish, MoMM 45-48 – 2002
Timothy J. Cotter, Sr., EM, 44-46 – July 2005
Donald J. Coughlin, RM 54 – December 1997
Richard H. Coupe, XO 61-63 – May 2003
Mack Cowart, ET 52 – August 2006
Raymond J. Cremin, EM 60 – January 2005
Richard Crittenden, EM 58 – January 2004
Enrique B. Cruz, TN, 45-49 – July 2005
Stephen P. Cyganik, FT 45 – February 2002
Wendell Darnold, RM 50-51 – December 2007

Jerome A. Davi, XO
Carl Davis, CO 57-58
Fred Davis, TM 49-53
William H. Davis, Mo
Floyd Day Jr., EN 60
Maurice L. Demers, H
Robert Demonge, TM
Kenneth H. Deramus
Alfred Despang, EM
Alfred Dickey, SA 45
John H. Dittmer, Mo
Gary Dorn, ET 55-57
Jere W. Driver, RM 63
Francis J. Drosch, E
William G. Eason, TM
Edward Englert, GM 4
John H. Epps, LTJg 47
Alois Ertl, EN 60-63
John B. Estes, IC 61-6
Morris E. Ezell Jr., QM
Joseph M. Farnsworth
Dale N. Fate, CS 54-59
Jess W. Favors, EM 58
George Fender, EN 52
William J. Fitzgerald, E
Ernest W. Flintoff, FA
Ellwood H. Forni, SO
James N. Forrester, EI
Taylor L. Fox, TM 46
Charles H. Foy, GM 45
Ralph French, CS 59-6
Roy H. Gallemore, LT
Frank M. Gambacorta,
Warden Gaskins, XO 4
Robert C. Gaunt, TM 4
John E. Gerenser, SN
Raymond J. Gillin, ET
John A. Goordman, ET
Richard M. Gorton, CS
John H. Goss, MM 46-
Robert Gouge, EN 58-
William H. Gould, EN 5
Ira Grayboff, MM 44-45
Henry Guthrie, EN 63-
Bobbie Joe Hammac,
James Harbin, QM 52
Otto D. Harrod, MoMM
John E. Harvey, CS 59
Lee R. Harvey, SN 48-
Raymond J. Heckroth,
Michael C. Hehmann E
Joe Hemphill, EM 44-4
Pat H. Henard, Sr., TM
William Henry, LTJg 58
Jere W. Hensel, TM 58
James High, LT 57-60
William F. Higley, SO 6
Donald E. Holley, TM 6
Dale D. Holtzclaw, EN
Scott E. Horton Jr., QM
Ira R. Houston, RM 44

- 1 - February 2003
 February 2000
 44-48
 April 2003
 48-50 - November 1990
 57 - August, 1996
 57-63 - November 1989
 61-63
 December 2007
 47-48
 September 2006
 March 1998
 59 - 1978
 February 2000
 - November 1982
 February 1988
 - February 2005
 6 - June 2004
 RM 48-49 - June 1985
 January 1999
 10 - February 2003
 July 2003
 51-52 - November 1996
 49 - January 1998
 - USS Thresher
 50-54
 November 1999
 6 - May 1974
 - October 2007
 -47 - February 2005
 O 44 - December 2000
 - 1953
 4-49 - 2000
 3-59 - March 2005
 54-55 - January 1990
 4 - May 1993
 - December 2001
 - November 1993
 60 - June 2002
 February 2004
 - 2001
 58-62 - May 1995
 February 2006
 5-47 - January 1984
 3 - November 2004
 - January 2006
 RM 49-52 - July 2007
 68-69 - 1993
 5-47 - December 1997
 9
 December 2003
 61 - October 2005
 64 - May 2001
 -61 - June 1994
 44-47
 9
- Jerry Hucks, LTJg 63-66 - June 2001
 William Hurt, MM 44-45
 Jack H. Johns, QM 49-50 - September 2004
 Alfred Jonas, EN 57 - February 2003
 Douglas S. Jordan, LT 59-61 - February 1992
 Matthew H. Jordan, EM 69
 Jerry L. Jorn, IC 51-54 - November 2002
 William H. Judy, EM 49 - December 1990
 John G. Juricek, QM 63 - March 2000
 Donald J. Kamuf, EN 60-61 - June 2006
 Zigmund Kanaszka, EM 52-55 -1975
 Arthur Keevil, LTJg, 47 - August 1993
 Warren F. Kendall, SN 50-52 - September 1981
 Joseph L. Kentz, MoMM 47 - February 1971
 Carlos S. Killgore, EM 63-65 - February 2003
 Edward Kilosky, EM 63 - 1997
 Edward L. King, LTJg 55-57 - September 2000
 Robert A. H. King, LTJg 53-55 - September 2003
 Gary G. Kirkpatrick, EN 50-52
 Geroge A. Klarmann, IC 54 - May 2003
 Leonard R. Kojm, CO 61-63 - September 2004
 Leonard C. Kroll, TM 52-55
 Harry Kumanski, TM 45 - July 1993
 Stephen Kurkjian, EN 51 - November 1977
 Paul Lacouture, LT 44-45
 Thomas L. Lampley, SN, 45-46 - March 2005
 Clayton LaPlante, EN 58-58 - 2000
 Wallace R. Larson, EN 49-52 - February 2007
 Johnny Lazo, SO 61-63- December 2002
 Robert LeBel, FN 44-46
 Kenneth L. LeBlanc, ET 60 - May 2007
 Neal D. Ledford, EN 49-50 - April 1993
 Charles F. Leigh, CO, 45-46 - January 1954
 Andrew Leslie, RM 55 - January 2000
 Herman J. LeVaur, MM 61 - September 1994
 Burt L. Levin, LT 57-58 - March 2007
 Jim Loffland, CS 58-61 - January 2004
 John Lorrey, MoMM 47 - May 1997
 John P. Macuszonok, EN 49-52
 Robert Madill, EM 49-50 - January 1998
 David B. Maher, CO 55 - February 1992
 Joseph E. Marmaud, EN 53-56 - August 2007
 Stanley C. Martell, FT 69 - March 2006
 Gerald K. Matern, YN 46 - March 1998
 Nelson "Sam" Mattingly, EM 52-56 - October 2006
 Clemens F. Maue Jr., SN 46-48 - October 2005
 Robert E. Mauldin, RM 48-50 - January 2003
 James L. McCombs, TM 49-50 - April 2002
 Donald R. McManis, SA 48-49 - August 2002
 William I. McNeil, SN 47-48 - December 1999
 Thomas A. Meek, ET 50-53 - September 1994
 Alfred W. Miller, SC 47-48 - October 2006
 Calvin G. Miller, LTJg 63-67 - September 2005
 Jack K. Miller, RD 52-53 - May 2007
 Morgan J. Minchey, TM 61-63 - May 2004
 John Minett, YN 45 - June 1989
 Frederick T. Montgomery, TM 59-60 - March 1997
 Frank Murphy, EN 62-65
 Charles E. Napier, QM 50-53
 William Nelson, EM 52-54 - January 2002
 Bobbie Newell, GM 44-46 - 70's
- Arthur Newton, XO 49-51
 Edgar W. Nies, RM 49 - September 2002
 Blies Nisonger, TM 44 - November 1997
 Lawrence C. Oetjengerdes, SC 46 - March 2004
 Arthur J. Olsen, EN 54 - June 1964
 Constantine Pappas, SC 44-45
 John Park, CS 63-65
 Nando Passerine, TM 53-54 - July 1980
 Robert G. Pearce, LTJg 62-63 - May 2005
 Dallas R. Pendergraph, ET 51-52 - February 1999
 Elias Peregrino, SD 45-49 - March 1950
 Owen Perry, TM 46 - March 1996
 Donald W. Peterson, EM 54-57 - August 2003
 Arturo Piazza, EN 60-62 - April 2006
 Stanley Piekos, TM 45 - January 1969
 Thomas H. Polk, CO 55-57 - April 1996
 Marshall H. Poole, EM 60-61 - September 2006
 William Porter, EM 44-46
 Rudolph H. Poteet, FT 53 - December 2006
 Tracey Price, EM 44-46
 Paul V. Purkrabek, LTJg 47 - November 2003
 Robert D. Reinheimer, TM 51-52 - 1976
 Raymond H. Renner CS 50 - March 1985
 Allen K. Rhodes, TM 49-52 - February 2004
 James A. Rhodes, TM 52 - July 2000
 Burton E. Rider, EN 51-53 - March 2003
 John W. Rindy, MoMM 46-47 - February 1975
 Henry Robertson, EN 48-50 - 1950
 William F. Robinson, CS 46-47 - February 2001
 Horace Q. Rogers, TM 58-59 - June 1983
 James O. Rogers, LT 53-56 - 2003
 John Ross, SN 44-47
 Bruce Rounds, SN 44-46
 Charles Russell, LT 59-61
 Frank Rutzen, FN 55-57 - November 1999
 Ernest J. Sabol, Jr., LTJg 57 - June 2003
 Ansel E. Sampson, IC 57-58 - November 1975
 Richard Sanders, IC 66-68
 Gaetano A. Sanfillipo, RM 48-49 - February 1982
 Louis V. Sardo, QM 60-61 & 64 - April 2004
 William G. Sargent, EM 63-64
 Laverne V. Schleuning, EN 53-55 - December 1999
 Jacon B. Schmersahl, EN 55-57 - June 2002
 Henry Schmidt, CS 55-57
 Herman Schoenberger, TM 57-59 - December 1995
 Albert R. Schofield Jr., LTJg 52 - June 1986
 Sidney Schorr, SN 45 - March 2003
 Harold R. Schwartz, TM 57-59 - February 2006
 James W. Scott, QM 60
 Phillip C. Sears, TM 57-58 - September 1982
 Walter Seifert, EN 60-62
 Vernon Seiple, SO 61-63 - December 2001
 Edwin W. Sharp, EN 67 - July 2002
 Harold O. Shealy, EM 49 - April 2007
 Edward E. Shook, EM 64-68 - March 1990
 Robert T. Silvis, SC 45-46 - May 1999
 Thomas J. Sirici, EN 63-67
 Norman Skiles, RM 58-59 - October 2003
 Rudolph V. Skocylas, RM 49 - January 1996
 Frederick S. Smith CP 44-46 - 1961
 James L. Smith, TM 63-64 - November 1991
- Ebrue G. Smojicie, EN 44-51
 George R. Sparks, Jr., CP 44-46 - December 1980
 Nolan (Dave) Spence, ET 54-56 - October 2000
 Gordon A. Spring, EM 64-65 - September 2006
 Richard M. Stafford, XO 61 - March 1995
 Yaber Staggs, EM 67-68 - September 1989
 Lawrence E. Stahl, XO 59-61 - April 2000
 Charles Stanley, EM 63-65 - February 2008
 Peter J. Stea, EN 53 - May 2002
 Wesley Stephens, EM 57-59 - December 2003
 David Strunk, TM 44-45 - July 2007
 William F. Sullivan, Jr., RM 45-47 - January 2007
 Harold F. Swan, MM 56-57 - November 2007
 Ezra R. Swartz, MoMM 46-47 - August 2001
 Wesley A. Sweat LTJg 59 - January 2004
 James Symanek, SA 68-69 - July 1970
 Melvin Syme, TM 44-45
 William N. V. Tackett, EN 51-55 - February 2005
 Frank J. Taggart, FT 56-59
 Joseph Tasillo, FA 52 - March 1993
 Arnett B. Taylor, XO 53-57 - October 2002
 Charlie Tieme, MM 44-47 - 2003
 Felix T. Thomas, TN 58-60 - June 1971
 Richard Todd, SN 45
 Gordon W. Townsend, RM 57 - June 1982
 Peter Urueta, QM 49 - May 1997
 Theodore M. Ustick, CO 49 - May 2000
 Robert E. Van Meter Jr., EM 60-62 - August 2000
 Warren Vanderwerker, EM 57-63
 Peter Wallin, QM 56-59 - March 1991
 Charlie N. Wentz, YN 56-58 - June 1999
 Ross Wesner, LTJg, 62-65 - August 2006
 Richard B. Wharton, CS 60-61 - September 1984
 Caril Wheat, ET 46-49 - March 1992
 Roy C. Wheelus, QM 46-47 - June 1985
 Ellis N. White, LT 44 - June 2004
 Frank P. White, TM 44-46 - July 2006
 Wayne White, EN 61-62 - April 1982
 James R. Wilder, HM 61-62 - November 1999
 Jesse Wiles, RM 61 - November 1999
 Robert K. R. Worthington, XO 44 - February 1996
 Fred Yarborough, TN 48-50 - 1990
 Keith Lee York, LT 51 - May 2002
 Bruce C. Young, LT 44-46 - March 2006
 Lester Young, EN 60-62 - February 2000
 Walter E. Zarembo, EN 61 - June 1997
 George Zelina, TM 44-46
 Melvin A. Zimmerman, GM 60 - September 2000
 Theodore Znuj, MM 44-46 - September 2000

Oldest Living Submariner



Photo courtesy of Ray Bigelow

Submarine Force Master Chief (SS) Jeff Garrison presents a submarine force coin to Floyd (Skipper) Matthews during Matthews 105th birthday celebration Feb. 3, 2008, in Florence, Ala.

Matthews qualified in submarines in 1925, having joined the Navy at the age of 16, three years younger than the age his recruiter listed on his enlistment papers.

During his career, Matthews served with Lt. Cmdr. Charles (Swede) Momsen, the inventor of the Momsen lung, and was a member of the crew that used the Momsen lung to rescue 30 crewmembers of the USS Squalus when their sub sank in 240 feet of water off Portsmouth, N.H.

Matthews served on USS Chickasaw, a submarine that performed security patrol duties during two nuclear bomb tests in the Pacific in 1946.

Matthews is one of America's last remaining World War I veterans, a number that is believed to be less than 10.

An item You Won't See in From Dale Liggett, QM 59-63

I received my two books Saturday and what a wonderful job the people did putting it together and they are far beyond my expectations. GREAT JOB I could have submitted this about Forni for the book and would have if I had known little would have been mentioned of him. I only spoke to George Bracey briefly on passing through the fwd battery but Forni and I stood lots of watches in the barrel. If we were on the surface he would be on the radar and I the QM. He would place his hand up on top of the bearing transmitter of #2 scope and I would hear a buzzer and sound. I would look for that button or what ever he pushed and could never find it. In port I would use a flash light and stand on something and still couldn't see how he did it. One day I saw his arm behind his back and at the same time his hand was up on the bearing transmitter. Without me seeing him do it he would place a switch on the TDC to the radar bearing position and then push the bearing button on the radar which caused the buzzer to sound. I had lots fun with this new found knowledge as the sound of the buzzer sounded like the captions A call from his stateroom. I would sound the buzzer and the conn officer would answer the phone thinking it was the captain. Of course no answer so would buzz a couple more times real fast and make it sound like the captain was getting angry. The conn officer would then call for the IC of the watch to check it out and that was when I would call off the joke. Didn't want a man working on something that didn't need fixing.



JJ Lynch, CS 59-62 presents a copy of *We Remember Sea Poacher* to John Krause, director of the St. Mary's Submarine Museum, St. Mary, Georgia.

Memorial Plaque Presentations



From left to right: Dave Vrooman, Blueback sub base in Portland, OR., Betty Dickey, wife of deceased Sea Poacher shipmate Alfred Dickey, SA 49; Gerry Keffer, TM 64-66 and Bob Sumner, BT 60-63



From left to right are: Deceased Sea Poacher shipmate Joe Marmaud's EN 53-56, daughter Carol Stockford, Walt Patrick (RM 61-63), Joe's son Joe, Russ Shondorf (MM 68-69) and Joe's daughter Francis Marmaud.



Mark Richwine YN 63 presents plaque to Jolene Darnold the widow of Wendall Darnold RM 50-51.



George West writes: Dave Keffler, his wife Wendy and my wife Ping and I presented Evelyn Strunk with the Sea Poacher Memorial Plaque. We enjoyed a delightful hour or so with her and got her to talk about her experiences as a Navy wife of some 34 years. She was quite happy to receive the plaque. Dave read the invocation and did a better job of holding it in than I would have.

From left to right: George West, EN 58-60; Evelyn Strunk, widow of David Strunk, TM 44-45 and David Keffler, ET 63-65

Mini-Reunions



(Photo submitted by Bob Henry)

John and Annette Snook, QM 59-62 lunch with Bob and Georgia Henry, EN 60-61 while visiting California.



(Photo submitted by Doug Bishop)

USSVI Central Florida Base gather for their Christmas party. Third from right is Bab Acor QO 59 and on extreme right is Doug Bishop IC 63-66.

Bob Henry Reports

UPDATE: California reunion 3/2008 [Sumner and Henry]: Friday spent most of day BSing and looking at pictures, DVD's and visiting Henry's horses and also did breakfast and lunch. Saturday we went to tour the sub USS Pampanito [SS-383] museum in San Francisco. Sumner brought his daughter and son-in-law and Henry brought one of his daughters and son-in-law along with their two year old daughter. Sumner was like a tour guide and we started a log jam in the crew's mess with people trying to hear our stories along with people wanting to take pictures with us; it was a blast for the two of us and our families. Sumner and I are looking forward to another mini reunion around July and hope to make arrangements to have at least one get together on the Pampanito; hoping to have Yeske, Savory, Sumner, Dempsey and myself attend. Sumner and I are planning to see each other again before he leaves for home on Tuesday. Boy am I a lucky guy to have shipmates come to my home town; makes up a little for me not being able to attend the reunion this year! As you can see in the pictures, we were really having a good time even when Sumner tried to get into the control room bilges because it was taking on some water and he was going to check it out.....seriously....Can't keep them throttle jockeys out of there!!!! It was an awesome day.....Cheers,



(Photo submitted by Lanny Yeske)

Lanny and Fran Yeske (LTJg 61-63) reminisce about Hurricane Katrina with Helen and Leo Carr (EN 49-51). Helen and Leo are in the center.

From Bob Henry along with our shipmate and good friend Bob Sumner. PS: A BIG Thanks to [ENS] Lanny Yeske who really got us together when we were in his Search for the Sea Poacher committee last year! God Bless All!

Announcing New USSVI Base

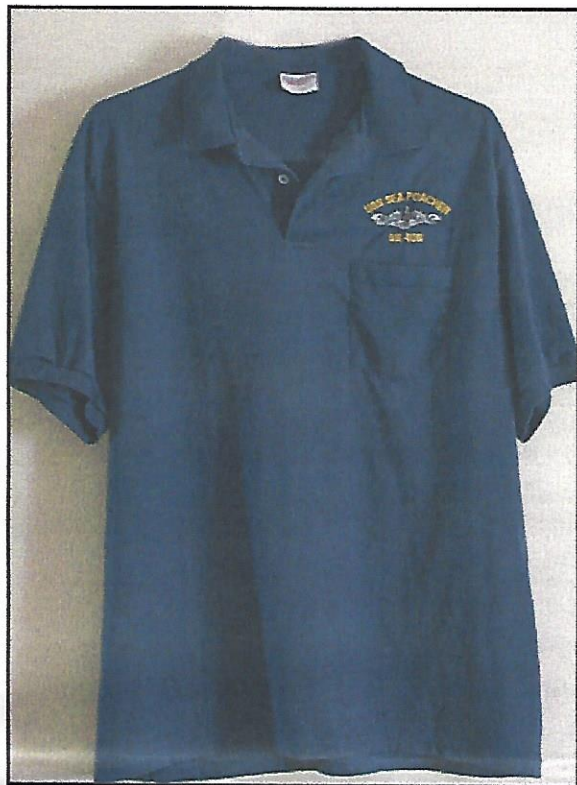
On April 12, 2008, a new USSVI base will receive its charter from the national headquarters United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. an organization for qualified submarine veterans. What's so special about this particular base, you ask? Well, the name of this base, located in Bartow, Florida will be **Sea Poacher Base**.

The Base Commander is Peter Merrill, the brother of our association Vice President, Jack Merrill who is the Vice Commander. The meetings are planned for the fourth Saturday in the month (except the April meeting) and will be held in the Tuscan Masonic Lodge at 320 S. Florida St. in Bartow.

Ted Anthony, SO 55-57 is the Treasurer, Bob Acor, QM 59 is the Ship's Storekeeper. Other 406 shipmates who are supporting the new base are, Doug Bishop, IC 63-66; Jack Ensminger, TM 61; Jack Gentry, TM 62-63; Ron Godwin, ST/Ens 58-61/68; Billy Gorsuch, RM 67-68; Bob Henry, EM 60-61; Ivan Joslin, LT 59-63; Ted Lee, 60-62; J.J. Lynch, CS 59-62; Jack Merrill, TM 61-63; Joe Mudoch, ET 62-63; Dewey Reed, SO 62-63; John Saeli EN 65-67; Benny Sheldon, EN 56-57; John Snook, QM 59-63; Fred Socha, SO 64-66; Ed Thompson, EN 53-55. Many of these guys are life members. Dues are \$15 per year and \$100 for a lifetime membership.

If you join before 1 May you will be honored as "Plankowners". You need not be a member of USSVI to join. You would be considered an Associate Member, although you are encouraged to join the national organization and you could be either a primary member or a dual member of Sea Poacher Base. Make checks out to Sea Poacher Base and send to Ted Anthony, 155 N. Seminole Ave., Lake Alfred, FL 33850-5176

Sea Poacher Ships' Store

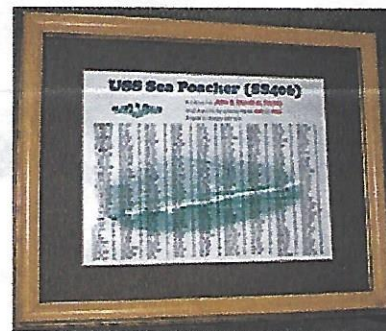


Embroidered Key Ring



Service Certificate

Certificate includes a picture of the boat in the configuration as you served aboard and also includes a list of all the shipmates with whom you served. Printed on high gloss photo paper. 11x14 frame subject to availability.



Framed and matted \$35.00
 Unframed \$10.00
 (Postage included)



ITEMS	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
Keychain	—	\$2.50	—
Ships' Patch	—	\$5.50	—
Ballcap	—	\$14.00	—
Coffee Cup	—	\$14.00	—
Golf Shirts - Sizes M, L, XL & 2XL	—	\$22.00	—
Etched Glass Tankard	—	\$20.00	—
WWII & Reunion 2003 Video	—	\$14.00	—
Framed Service Certificate	—	\$35.00	—
Unframed Service Certificate	—	\$10.00	—
TOTAL			—

Please make check payable to Bill Brinkman and mail to: *Bill Brinkman, 4500 Tiffany Nicole St., Round Rock, TX 78664-9466.* Prices includes shipping!



USS Sea Poacher (SS406)

Association

Bill Brinkman, President
4500 Tiffany Nicole St.
Round Rock, TX 78665
seapoacher@austin.rr.com

Sea Poacher web site: <http://seapoacher.com>

Fred Socha
4745 Grove Court
Canton, MI 48188-2342

481882342 5011



In the Beginning . . .

In the beginning was the word, and the word was God and all else was darkness and void and without form. So God created the heavens and the earth. He created the sun and the moon and the stars, so that their light might pierce the darkness. And the earth, God divided between the land and the sea, and these He filled with many assorted creatures. And from the slime, in a land called Lymphstone, God made dark, salty creatures that inhabited the seashore. He called them Marines, He dressed them accordingly, in bright colors so that their betters may more easily find them in the holes and burrows that they'd scoured out of the ground. And God said, "Whilst at their appointed labors they will devour worms, maggots, C and K rations and all creatures that creep or crawl".

The flighty creatures of the air, He called Airdales, and these He clothed in uniforms which were ruffled, perfumed, and pretty. He gave them great floating cities with flat roofs in which to live, where they gathered and formed huge multitudes. They carried out heathen rites and ceremonies by day and by night upon the roof amidst thunderous noise. They were given God's blue sky and their existence was on the backs of others.

And the surface creatures of the sea, God called Skimmers, who supported the Airdales and with a twinkle in His eye and a sense of humor only He could have, He gave them all gedunks, polluted with much stickywater, to drink. God gave them big grey "targets" to go to sea in. He gave them many splendid uniforms to wear. And He gave them all the world's exotic and wonderful places to visit. He gave them pen and paper so that they could write home every week, and He gave them ropeyam Sunday at sea and a laundry so they could clean and polish their splendid uniforms. (When you are God it is very easy to get carried away with your own great and wondrous benevolence).

And on the seventh day, as you know, God rested from his labors.

And on the eighth day at 0755, just before colors, God looked down

upon the earth and He was not a happy man. God knew He had not quite achieved perfection, so He thought about his labors, and in His infinite wisdom, He created a divine creature, His masterpiece, and this He called a SUBMARINER. A child of heaven. And these Submariners, whom God created in His own image, and to whom He gave his most cherished gift, great intelligence, were to be of the deep, and to them He gave more of his greatest gifts. He gave them black steel messengers of death called the "Smoke Boat" class in which to roam the depths of his oceans, and He gave them His arrows and slingshots, the Mark 14 torpedo of burnished brass and black, and the Mark 37 of green, to wage war against the forces of Satan and all evil. He heaped great knowledge and understanding upon them, in order that they may more easily win their greatest challenge, to pass their Qualification Test and be skilled in the great works God had charged them with. The finest of these men, God called "Diesel Boat Submariners" for they made all happen beyond the understanding of other men.

He gave His Submariners hotels in which to live when they were exhausted and weary from doing God's will. He gave them fortitude to consume vast quantities of beer and booze, to sustain them in their arduous tasks, performed in His name. He gave them great food, submarine pay and occasionally, subsistence so that they might entertain the Ladies of the "Starlight", "White Hat", and the "Horse and Cow" on Saturday nights and impress the hell out of the creatures He called Skimmers and Jar Heads. And at the end of the eighth day, God again looked down upon the earth and saw all was good in His realm.

But God was not happy because, in the course of His mighty labors He had forgotten one thing. He had not kept a pair of "Dolphins" for Himself. But He thought about it and considered it and finally He consoled himself, in the certain knowledge that - - -

Not Just Anybody Can Be A Submariner!