



1MC



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

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2023 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE -- ST. CLAIR SHORES



Wolverine Base members proudly marched in the 70th St Clair Shores Memorial Day Parade on May 28. The 2½ mile parade route ran up Jefferson Avenue through the St. Clair Shores business district. Parade-goers lined both sides of the road for the entire route. LT Kyle Kosinski, USN, an active duty submarine officer and current instructor at the University of Michigan NROTC Unit, was our own Grand Marshall, riding in Phil Klintworth's 1995 LeBaron convertible.

For the second year in a row Wolverine Base presence included a float carrying a model of USS Scorpion (SSN-589), the last United States submarine lost at sea. Frank Woechan towed the float with his truck, outfitted with a submarine diving alarm. Each time Frank sounded two blasts, the rest of the gang yelled out "Dive, Dive," to the delight of the crowd.



Following the parade, Base members proceeded to the Cpl. Walter F. Bruce VFW Post 1146, a short distance from the end of the parade route, and conducted the Tolling of the Boats ceremony. The ceremony was observed by many folks attending the other festivities being held at the VFW Post. In addition, the presentation was enhanced by the PA system provided by Ron Mexicott.



WOLVERINE BASE THANKS TOP NOTCH DETAILING

For the past two years, Top Notch Detailing of Caro, MI has prepared Frank Woechan's Ford F-250 for service pulling the Wolverine Base float in the St. Clair Shores Memorial Day Parade. They did this at no cost to the Base – their way of saying "thanks" to the SubVets. The Base said "thanks" back on Thursday June 29 by presenting Chris and Adam Carr, the father/son team who have been running the company for six years, with a certificate of appreciation and a new national ensign for display at their business.



Shown at the left is the certificate of appreciation presented to Top Notch Detailing. Below are Adam and Chris with Frank's F-250.



Robert Dickinson, Sam Ritchie, Steve Ritter, Chris & Adam Carr, Frank Woechan

EAGLE SCOUT RECOGNITION



Frank and Phil with Eagle Scout Patrick Wallace and his parents

Patrick's Eagle Scout project involved the planning and construction of a 35-ft boardwalk over a flooded section of the Waterloo-Pinckney trail. The structure improves drainage over the trail and prevents human activity from disrupting the flow of water. In addition, it provides greater trail access to hikers and rangers. WELL DONE, Patrick!

At an Eagle Scout Court of Honor held on June 11, Frank Woechan and Phil Klintworth presented a USSVI certificate in recognition of outstanding achievement to Patrick Lee Wallace of Boy Scout Troop 350 in Brighton, MI. Frank, an Eagle Scout himself, spoke of how being an Eagle had shaped his life and career. Phil compared the process of attaining the Eagle Scout rank to the process of Qualifying in Submarines.



MUSEUM SUBMARINES

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

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

USS Razorback	(SS-394)	North Little Rock, AR	Guppy II	www.aimmuseum.org/
USS Torsk	(SS-423)	Baltimore, MD	Fleet snorkel	www.historicships.org/
USS Requin	(SS-481)	Pittsburgh, PA	Fleet snorkel	www.carnegiesciencecenter.org/
USS Dolphin	(AGSS-555)	San Diego, CA	Deep diving	www.sdmaritime.org/
USS Albacore	(AGSS-569)	Portsmouth, NH	Experimental	www.ussalbacore.org/
USS Nautilus	(SSN-571)	Groton, CT	SSN	www.ussnautilus.org/
USS Growler	(SSG-577)	New York, NY	SSG	www.intrepidmuseum.org/
USS Blueback	(SS-581)	Portland, OR	Teardrop hull	www.oms.edu/submarine

Featured in this issue is USS Drum (SS-228)

History

USS Drum (SS-228) was launched May 12, 1941, at Portsmouth Navy Yard, New Hampshire, sponsored by Mrs. Thomas Holcomb. Commissioned on November 1, 1941, she completed 13 war patrols in the



Pacific theater, credited with sinking 15 ships for a total of 80,580 tons of enemy shipping, the eighth highest of all U.S. submarines in total Japanese tonnage sunk. Drum was decommissioned on February 16, 1946, and subsequently served at Washington, D.C., to members of the Naval Reserve in the Potomac River Naval Command until 1967, when she was placed in the inactive fleet at Norfolk, Virginia until 1969.

Museum ship

USS Drum was donated to the USS ALABAMA Battleship Commission on April 14, 1969. She was towed to Mobile arriving May 18, 1969. She was dedicated and opened to the public on July 4, 1969. In 2001, Drum was moved onto land for permanent display, the project winning several engineering awards. USS Drum (SS-228) is the oldest American submarine on display in the world. The submarine was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1986.

Drum was moored in the waters behind Alabama, until she was substantially damaged by the storm surge of Hurricane Georges in 1998. As a result, she is now on display on shore. Alabama and Drum also sustained damage when Hurricane Katrina came ashore on 29 August 2005. Tours on board Drum resumed 9 January 2006. Most funding to maintain the submarine comes from a community of American Submarine Vets.



Battleship Alabama Memorial Park



The State of Alabama Legislature outlined the mission of the USS ALABAMA Battleship Commission when it created that body in 1963. The Commission shall “establish, operate and maintain a state memorial park to honor the Alabamians who participated so valiantly in all armed conflicts of the United States...and, as a permanent public memorial, to educate the public on the contributions and sacrifices of the veterans of all branches of the United States Armed Services in all conflicts.”

COMING EVENTS

23 Jul	1400	Picnic at Jim Thelander’s [5802 Lakeshore, Ft. Gratiot, MI]
13 Aug - 1400		7th Annual Bubblehead BBQ [Ozzie’s house - 3701 Brookshire St., Trenton, MI 48183]
26 Aug	1500	Polish Day Parade [Cousino High School, 30333 Hoover Rd. Warren, MI]
28 Aug – 3 Sep		USSVI Convention, El Conquistador, Tucson, AZ
17 Sep	1600	Monthly base meeting, Hamlin Pub [22 Mile Rd & Hayes, Shelby Twp]



LOST BOATS [July – September]

USS S-28 (SS-133)

Lost on July 4, 1944 with the loss of 49 crew members. She was conducting training exercises off Hawaii with the US Coast Guard Cutter Reliance. After S-28 dove for a practice torpedo approach, Reliance lost contact. No distress signal or explosion was heard. Two days later, an oil slick was found near where S-28 had been. The exact cause of her loss remains a mystery.

USS Robalo (SS-273)

Lost on July 26, 1944 with the loss of 81 crew members while on her 3rd war patrol. She struck a mine about 2 miles off the coast of Palawan. Four men survived and swam ashore, then were imprisoned by the Japanese. Unfortunately, they were put on a Japanese destroyer and lost when that destroyer was sunk.

USS Grunion (SS-216)

Lost on July 30, 1942 with the loss of 70 crew members while on her first war patrol near Kiska Harbor. She radioed that she sank two sub-chasers and damaged a third, but was never heard from again. Grunion’s mangled remains were found in the Bering Sea in 2006 off the Aleutian Island of Kiska.

USS Bullhead (SS-332)

Lost on August 6, 1945 with the loss of 84 crew members in the Lombok Strait while on her 3rd war patrol when sunk by a depth charge dropped by a Japanese Army plane. Bullhead was the last submarine lost during WWII.

USS Flier (SS-250)

Lost on August 13, 1944, with the loss of 78 crew members while on her 2nd war patrol. Flier was transiting on the surface when she was rocked by a massive explosion (probably a mine) and sank within less than a minute. 13

survivors, some injured, made it into the water and swam to shore. 8 survived and 6 days later friendly natives guided them to a Coast Watcher and they were evacuated by the USS Redfin (SS-272).

USS S-39 (SS-144)

Lost on August 13, 1942 after grounding on a reef south of Rossel Island while on her 3rd war patrol. The entire crew was able to get off and rescued by the HMAS Katoomba.

USS Harder (SS-257)

Lost on August 24, 1944 with the loss of 79 crew members from a depth charge attack by a minesweeper near Bataan while on her 6th war patrol. Harder had won a Presidential Unit Citation for her first 5 war patrols and CDR Dealey was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously. Harder is tied for 9th in the number of enemy ships sunk.

USS Cochino (SS-345)

Lost on August 26, 1949 after being jolted by a violent polar gale off Norway caused an electrical fire and battery explosion that generated hydrogen and chlorine gasses. In extremely bad weather, men of Cochino and Tusk (SS-426) fought to save the submarine for 14 hours. After a 2nd battery explosion, Abandon Ship was ordered and Cochino sank. Tusk's crew rescued all of Cochino's men except for one civilian engineer. Six sailors from Tusk were lost during the rescue.

USS S-5 (SS-110)

Lost on September 1, 1920 when a practice dive went wrong and she sank bow-first, with her stern showing above the water. In a dramatic adventure, her exhausted crew was

rescued during the next few days. Salvage attempts were unsuccessful, S-5 settled to the bottom and was abandoned.

USS Grayling (SS-209)

Lost on Sept 9, 1943 with the loss of 76 men near the Tablas Strait. Grayling was on her 8th war patrol and sank two ships before being lost.

USS Pompano (SS-181)

Pompano was sunk (between Sept 17 and Oct 5) with the loss of 77 men while on her 7th war patrol. Possibly lost on Sept 17, 1943. Japanese records show that a submarine was sunk in her patrol area on 17 September by air & depth charge attack off the Aomori Prefecture near Shiriya Zaki. Before being lost, she sank two enemy cargo ships. The exact cause of her loss remains unknown, but she probably was sunk by the air/sea attack above or fell victim to a mine on or after 9/25/1943. This boat's last recorded ship (Taiko Maru) sunk happened on Sept 25th, so she probably hit a mine on or after that date but before Oct 5th, when she was scheduled back at Midway.

USS S-51 (SS-162)

Lost on Sept 25, 1925 with the loss of 33 men when it was sunk after collision with SS City of Rome off Block Island.

USS Cisco (SS-290)

Lost on Sept 28, 1943 on her first war patrol with the loss of 76 men in the Sulu Sea west of Mindinao.

Eileen Mahoney's poem "In Waters Deep" sums up the loss of sailors at sea. It uses (intentionally) the same meter as "In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae

IN WATERS DEEP

In ocean wastes no poppies blow,
No crosses stand in ordered row,
There young hearts sleep... beneath the wave...
The spirited, the good, the brave,
But stars a constant vigil keep,
For them who lie beneath the deep.

'Tis true you cannot kneel in prayer
On certain spot and think. "He's there."
But you can to the ocean go...
See whitecaps marching row on row;
Know one for him will always ride...
In and out... with every tide.

And when your span of life is passed,
He'll meet you at the "Captain's Mast."
And they who mourn on distant shore
For sailors who'll come home no more,
Can dry their tears and pray for these
Who rest beneath the heaving seas...

For stars that shine and winds that blow
And whitecaps marching row on row.
And they can never lonely be
For when they lived... they chose the sea.

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

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

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today.



Wolverine Base

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

Base Commander: Fred Kinzel

Sr. Vice Commander: Phil Klintworth

Secretary: Denise Walsh

Treasurer: Bob Walsh

Chaplain: Steve Ritter

Storekeeper: Frank Woechan

Chief of the Boat: Sam Ritchie