



1MC



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

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Ozzie Gets Joe Negri Award as Submarine Veteran of the Year



As announced at the Awards Banquet at the recent annual convention of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., this year's Joe Negri Award was awarded to Wolverine Base's own Richard "Ozzie" Osentoski. Named after the primary founder of USSVI, the award is the highest and most prestigious Award that can be presented to a member, reflecting his personal individual efforts and participation during the preceding years on a National level, and who has contributed the most to the advancement and embodiment of the USSVI Creed. Ozzie got the award principally for his excellent work as Chairman of the National Convention Committee.

BRAVO ZULU Ozzie!



Wolverine Base Members Recognized at Convention

In addition to Ozzie, four other Wolverine Base members were honored at the Awards Banquet:

Helene Ritter – Robert Link Award

Sam Ritchie – Silver Anchor Award

Frank Woechan – Meritorious Shipmate Award

Phil Klintworth – Meritorious Shipmate Award



Helene Ritter was presented the Robert Link National Commander Commendation Award. Named for Robert Link, former United States Submarine Veterans of World War II National Commander and the first National Commander of USSVI, the award recognizes significant and dedicated stewardship or leadership roles towards the smooth operation of a USSVI Base, District, or Regional area of responsibilities.

Helene provided logistic support (including the use of her home on short notice) for many base projects and undertakings, and was always available to take action where required as needs arose.

WELL DONE Helene!



Sam Ritchie was given the Silver Anchor Award, in recognition of his efforts to support one of the primary objectives of our Creed...to provide a way for all submariners to gather for their mutual benefit and enjoyment. He assumed the duties of Treasurer when the previous officer moved away and significantly upgraded the base's website to make it more user-friendly.

ATTABOY Sam!



Frank Woechan was presented the Meritorious Award for his actions exemplifying the Motto, "Pride Runs Deep." Frank served as Base Storekeeper, prepared carved wooden dolphins for the base float, devised a QR code for the base business cards, organized base fundraisers, and (as an Eagle Scout himself) participated in the Base's efforts to recognize local young men achieving Eagle Scout rank.

CONGRATULATIONS Frank!



Phil Klintworth was presented the Meritorious Award for his actions exemplifying the Motto, "Pride Runs Deep." Phil served as Newsletter Editor, participates in Base Parade entries with a classic convertible, and serves as Eagle Scout Chair for the Base.

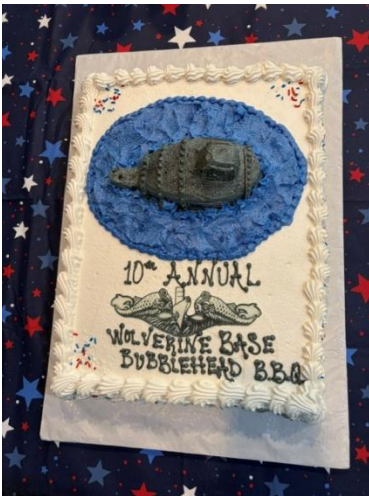
WAY TO GO Phil!

July Meeting at Bay Court Park, Clarkston, MI



Ozzie's Tenth Bubblehead BBQ

Wolverine Base's Tenth Bubblehead Barbeque was hosted once again by Ozzie Osentoski at his Trenton, MI home on Sunday 9 August. Ably assisted by Jan McKim, and daughter Teresa, Ozzie put on a great party. As at past Barbeques, his extensive collection of USS Ronquil (SS-396) memorabilia was on display.



More Pix from the National Convention at Corpus Christi





Ozzie and friends



Steve Detloff & Phil Petty

Tales from the “Old Days” – S1C Prototype Reactor

The S1C reactor was a prototype naval reactor designed for the United States Navy to provide electricity generation and propulsion on warships. This nuclear reactor was built in Windsor, Connecticut as a prototype for the USS Tullibee (SSN-597) submarine. Unusual for a nuclear submarine propulsion plant of that era, steam turbines powered generators, which in turn powered an electric motor. This eliminated the need for reduction gears and their associated underwater noise. The USS Tullibee was an early advanced-design, fast-attack submarine constructed by Electric Boat and commissioned in 1960. The reactor plant (and the corresponding S2C installed in Tullibee) were the only submarine plants designed by Combustion Engineering.



S1C site in 1987

The reactor was situated on land and known as the S1C Nuclear Power Training Unit (NPTU). Regarding its size and electric drive, the system layout was different than the S5W reactor used in most nuclear-powered submarines at the time. The prototype and ship had four turbine generators (2 for DC power for propulsion and 2 for AC voltage) and banked rod control. There was only two levels in the engineering spaces and the electrical operator operated out in the engineering spaces, unlike on S5W and later submarines.

Throughout the Cold War, the prototype at the Windsor Site supported the submarines and surface ships of the Navy's nuclear fleet by testing new equipment and training Naval propulsion plant operators. The prototype operated from 1959 until 1993. During that time, over 14,000 Naval operators were trained there, including Wolverine Base members Lynn Watson, Phil Klintworth, and perhaps others.

Full remediation of the S1C site was declared to be complete by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection in 2006. Remediation of the site was undertaken by Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory (KAPL), based out of Schenectady, New York. KAPL had taken over operation of the site in the 1970s after expiration of the Navy's original contract with Combustion Engineering.

COMING EVENTS

11 Oct	1500	Monthly base meeting, Nuevo Vallarta Mexican Restaurant [11225 S. Saginaw St., Grand Blanc, MI 48439]
8 Nov	1400	Base Thanksgiving Dinner and meeting, Steve & Helene Ritter's Home [27805 Bertrand Dr, Chesterfield, MI]
13 Dec	1400	Annual Base Holiday Party Meeting, [Location TBD]

LOST BOATS [October - December]

USS Seawolf (SS-197)

Lost on Oct 3, 1944 with the loss of 83 officers and men and 17 US Army troops when she was sunk just north of Moritai by USS Rowell, a Destroyer Escort (DE). In this tragic error, Rowell mistook Seawolf for a Japanese submarine that had just sunk another Destroyer. Seawolf ranks 7th for enemy ships sunk.

USS S-44 (SS-155)

Lost on Oct 7, 1943 with the loss of 56 men when it was sunk off Paramushiru, Kuriles. S-44 was on her 5th war patrol after attacking a target thought to be a merchant on the surface, S-44 found herself in a losing gun battle with a heavily armed Japanese destroyer. Two men were taken prisoner and survived the war.

USS Wahoo (SS-238)

Lost on Oct 11, 1943 with the loss of 80 men near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, LCDR "Mush" Morton, Wahoo was on her 7th war patrol. Wahoo had won a Presidential Unit Citation and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. She was lost to depth charges dropped by a Japanese patrol aircraft.

USS Dorado (SS-248)

Lost on Oct 12, 1943 with the loss of 77 men when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, she had departed New London and was enroute to Panama. She may have been sunk by a U.S. patrol plane that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or a German U-boat that was in the vicinity.

USS Escolar (SS-294)

Lost on Oct 17, 1944 with the loss of 82 men. She was on her 1st war patrol and was most likely lost to a mine somewhere in the Yellow Sea.

USS Shark II (SS-314)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 with the loss of 87 men when she was sunk near Hainan. The second boat to carry this name during World War II, she was on her 3rd war patrol. Shark was sunk by escorts after attacking and sinking a lone freighter. Compounding the tragedy, it turned out that the freighter had 1,800 U.S. POW's on board.

USS Dartar (SS-227)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 when she became grounded on Bombay Shoal off Palawan and was then destroyed to prevent her falling into enemy hands intact. The entire crew was rescued by USS Dace. Winner of one Navy Unit Commendation, Dartar had sunk a heavy cruiser and damaged another and went aground while attempting an "end around" on an enemy formation in hopes of getting in an attack on a battleship.

USS Tang (SS-306)

Lost on Oct 25, 1944 with the loss of 78 men in the Formosa Strait. Tang was on her 5th war patrol. Tang ranks 2nd in the number of ships sunk and 4th in tonnage, and had won two Presidential Unit Citations. During a daring night surface attack, Tang was lost to a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. Nine of the crew were taken prisoner, including CDR. O'Kane and five who had gained the surface from her final resting place 180 feet below. All survived the war, and CDR O'Kane was awarded the Medal of Honor.

USS O-5 (SS-66)

Lost on October 29, 1923 with the loss of 3 men when rammed and sunk by SS Abangarez off the Panama Canal.

USS Albacore (SS-218)

Lost on Nov 7, 1944 with the loss of 85 men when she was sunk off northern Hokkaido. Winner of two Presidential Unit Citations, Albacore was on her eleventh war patrol and struck a mine while running submerged near a Japanese patrol craft that had detected her.

USS Growler (SS-215)

Lost on Nov 8, 1944 with the loss of 86 men when she was sunk in the South China Sea. Winner of two Navy Unit Commendations, Growler was on her 12th war patrol, and was lost while attacking a convoy, probably as a result of a depth charge attack or victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes.

USS Scamp (SS-277)

Probably sunk on November 16, 1944 with the loss of 83 men near Tokyo Bay. On her 8th war patrol, she may have been damaged by a mine and was trailing oil, which helped

Japanese coast defense vessels locate and destroy her with depth charges.

USS Corvina (SS-226)

Lost on Nov 16, 1943 with the loss of 82 men when she was sunk just south of Truk. Corvina was on her 1st war patrol and appears she was lost to the torpedoes of a Japanese submarine.

USS Sculpin (SS-191)

Lost on Nov 19, 1943 with the loss of 43 men near Truk. Severely damaged by depth charges after attacking an enemy convoy, Sculpin continued to fight on the surface. When the captain was killed, the crew abandoned ship and scuttled Sculpin. 41 men were taken prisoner but only 21 survived the war. Among those not abandoning ship was CAPT Cromwell, aboard as a potential wolfpack commander, he rode the Sculpin down, fearing that vital information in his possession might be compromised under torture. For this, CAPT Cromwell was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

USS Capelin (SS-289)

Lost on Dec 2, 1943 with the loss of 76 men. She was on her

1st war patrol, but her exact location, date and cause of loss remain a mystery. She may have been lost to mines or an operational casualty.

USS Sealion (SS-195)

Lost on Dec 10, 1941 with the loss of 4 men. To prevent her from falling into enemy hands, she was scuttled in Manila Bay after incurring severe bomb damage during the initial Japanese attack. One other Sealion man was later captured and died in POW camp.

USS F-1 / Carp (SS-20)

Lost on December 17, 1917 with the loss of 19 officers and men when it was sunk after collision with the USS F-3 (Pickerel(SS-22)) off San Clemente, CA.

USS S-4 (SS-109)

Lost on December 17, 1927 with the loss of 40 officers and men when it was sunk after being rammed by USCG Paulding. Salvaged in 1928 and recommissioned.

Lost Harbor

by Leslie Nelson Jennings

**There is a port of no return, where ships
May ride at anchor for a little space
And then, some starless night, the cable slips,
Leaving an eddy at the mooring place . . .
Gulls, veer no longer. Sailor, rest your oar.
No tangled wreckage will be washed ashore.**





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 Macomb County, Michigan (586) 212-6757

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

Base Commander: Steve Ritter
Sr. Vice Commander: Patrick Kelley
Jr. Vice Commander: Frank Woechan
Secretary: Brian Ball

Treasurer: Sam Ritchie
Chaplain: Robert Dickinson
Storekeeper: Frank Woechan
Chief of the Boat: Jeremy Hale