



San Diego Base USSVI
4370 Twain Avenue
San Diego, CA 92120-3404



The Silent Sentinel



**December 2019
and January 2020**



OUR CREED

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 towards greater accomplishment and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution

Commander's Corner

Shipmates: The past two months have seen a sea change in the generation and publishing of your Silent Sentinel, but we are making progress and hope to resume our regular issue schedule very soon.

Our long-time Sentinel Editor, Michael Hyman, suffered the loss of his beloved wife of 37 years, Hadara, on the 5th of December. Please keep Michael in your thoughts and prayers.

After a very long (20 year?) run as our Editor, Michael decided to hang up his green eye shade and has passed his quill pen and inkwell to Jack Kane. We thank Michael for his dedicated service to the Sentinel and our Base and wish him all the best. We'll still have Michael as a participant in Base affairs, so be sure to thank him next time you see him.

I had a nearly three hour meeting this week with the CMDCM and a couple of his principal assistants at Submarine Squadron 11. The topics were wide ranging, covering a number of activities and issues of interest to SubVets; across the board, I found responses very encouraging. I'll debrief several of these at our next meeting. The CMDCM plans to attend one of our meetings very soon.

Hope to see you on March 10th.

Warren Branges, Base Commander

**U.S. Submarine Veterans San Diego Base
Officers and Staff**

**Base Commander - Warren Branges -619-461-0464
8030 Laird Street, La Mesa, CA 91942
sdsbvets@gmail.com**

**Senior Vice Commander - Manny Burciaga - 619-921-5877
8406 Alado Place, El Cajon, CA 92021
mpburcia@cox.net**

**Junior Vice Commander - Joe Peluso—858-693-0627
8380 Pallux Way, San Diego, CA 92126
jpeluso@pacbell.net**

**Secretary, Parade Chair, Interim Sentinel Editor
Jack Kane—619-602-1801
2498 Boyington Place, El Cajon, CA 92020
jkane32@cox.net—subvetparades@cox.net**

**Treasurer - Mike Cosgrove—619-559-4004
1557 Swallow Drive, El Cajon, CA 92020
grover02@aol.com**

**Base Storekeeper—Scholarship Committee Chair
Paul Hitchcock—619-463-2792
4419 Lowell Street, La Mesa, CA 91942
datsunpaul@netzero.net**

**Membership - Ray Febrache—619-972-4474
San Diego, CA 92117
arayz@san.rr.com**

Chaplain - TBD

**Chief of the Boat - Bob Bissonnette—H 619-644-8993 C 619-251-7095
1525 Walbollen Street, Spring Valley, CA 91977
rjbissonnette@gmail.com**

Our monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at:

The VFW Post 3787 at 4370 Twain Avenue, San Diego, CA

**NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY, 10 March 2020 - 1900 (7:00pm)
E-Board at 1800 (6:00pm)**

Submarine Losses for the Months Of December and January

**USS Capelin (SS-289) - Lost on 2 Dec 1943. 76 Officers and men.
ALL HANDS LOST**

USS Sealion (SS-195) - Lost on 10 Dec 1941. FOUR MEN LOST.

**USS F-1/ CARP (SS-20) - Lost on 17 Dec 1917. NINETEEN OFFICERS
AND MEN LOST.**

**USS S-4 (SS-109) - Lost on 17 Dec 1927—FORTY OFFICERS AND
MEN LOST**

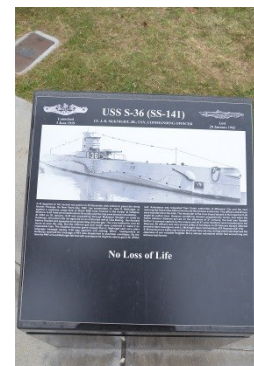
**USS Scorpion (SS-278) - Lost on 5 Jan 1944—77 Officers and Men.
ALL HANDS LOST**

**USS Argonaut (SS-166) - Lost on 10 Jan 1943.—102 Officers and
Men. ALL HANDS LOST**

**USS Swordfish (SS-193) - Lost on 12 Jan 1945—89 Officers and Men.
ALL HANDS LOST**

USS S-36 (SS-141) - Lost on 20 Jan 1942—No Loss of Life.

**USS S-26 (SS-131) - Lost on 24 Jan 1942.—FORTY SIX OFFICERS
AND MEN LOST**



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEE THE LATEST CBR AT

https://www.ussvisandiego.org/Documents/Constant_Bearing_Decreasing_Range_SubVets_Schedule_2019.pdf

ANNUAL SUBMARINER ROUNDUP & WESTERN REGIONAL MEETING

**DON LAUGHLIN'S RIVERSIDE RESORT AND CASINO
LAUGHLIN NV
23-27 MARCH**

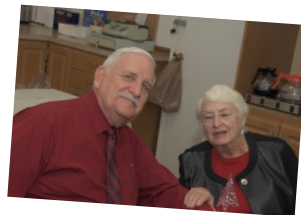
<https://wrroundup.com/>

**SAN DIEGO BASE SUBMARINE BREAKFAST AT
VFW POST 3787 – MARCH 29TH 0800 TO 1100**

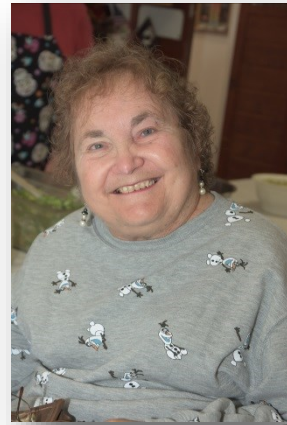
**TOLLING OF THE BOATS AND OLDTIMERS LUNCHEON
NAVAL BASE POINT LOMA – 1000, 10 APRIL 2020**

**LINDA VISTA MULTICULTURAL PARADE AND FAIR
25 APRIL 2020 – PARADE STARTS AT 1100**

**ALL FLAGS AT 52 BOAT MEMORIAL
NTC PARK AT LIBERTY STATION – 11 APRIL 2020
SETUP FLAGS AT 0700 – RETRIEVAL 1700**



Christmas Party 2019



San Diego Base, United States Submarine Veterans Inc.
Minutes of Meeting - 10 December 2019
At VFW Hall, 4370 Twain Avenue, San Diego CA 92120

1907 - Base Commander Warren Branges called the meeting to order.

Conducted Opening Exercises - Pledge of Allegiance lead by **Chief of the Boat Bob Bissonnette**.

Base Commander Warren Branges lead the opening prayer and gave an Eternal Patrol Report. RM1(SS) Len Heiselt went on Eternal Patrol 25 November 2019 in Henderson NV. Len qualified on USS Toro (SS-422) in 1958. Len also served on USS Ethan Allen (SSBN 608), USS Trepang (SS 412) and USS Tecumseh (SSBN 628). Len's primary was Scamp Base where he was past Base Commander. Len was also a dual member of San Diego Base and Area 51 Base. He was COB of Area 51 Base upon his passing. He previously served as Western Region District 6 Commander. Services will be held for Len at Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City NV on 16 December 2019.

Base Treasurer Mike Cosgrove conducted Tolling of the Boats for boats lost in the month of December.

Senior Vice Commander Manny Burciaga recognized Past Commanders, dignitaries and guests

Base Secretary Jack Kane announced 22 members and 2 guests present.

Base Treasurer Mike Cosgrove presented the Treasurer's report. A copy of the Report will be filed with these minutes.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 2019 meeting will be published in the Sentinel.

Base Commander Warren Branges called for Committee Reports

Binnacle List - Sergio Frost, Bob Oberting, Joe Peluso, Dave Martinez and Tony Dack are on Binnacle.

Parade Committee - Chairman Jack Kane. The next parade is Linda Vista on 25 April 2020. Maps and parade instructions will be distributed when received from the Parade Committee.

Membership Committee - **Chairman Ray Febrache** reported we have 236 members. Ray will be stepping down as Membership Chair due to health issues. We will need a volunteer for this position.

Scholarship Committee - **Committee Chairman Paul Hitchcock**. The start of the application cycle will be January 2020. Application deadline is 15 April 2020. Any member who sponsors a Scholarship Candidate is advised to review applications before submission. Any submission not meeting minimum criteria will be returned to the candidate without consideration. Applications are available on our website.

Storekeeper - **Chairman Paul Hitchcock**. Calendars are available at \$10 per. See Paul at the break to purchase yours.

Breakfast Committee - **Chairman Base Commander Warren Branges**. The Next Breakfast is 29 December 2019. The Some volunteers are needed for this Breakfast. We also need a volunteer to assist with Breakfast days in the upcoming year.

52 Boat Memorial - **Chairman Base Commander Warren Branges**. - The next All Flags Day will be Saturday, 25 April 2020 (Submarine Birthday). We will post flags at 0700 and retrieve them at 1630. Design for the new polished concrete markers is progressing. First new monument should be ready in January 2020.

Float Committee - Chairmanship open. The trailer has been turned over from Joel Eikam to Warren Branges on an MOA specifying its use by San Diego Base USSVI and/or 52 Boat Memorial as a conveyance for our submarine model. The float and trailer will need some minor repairs and preventive maintenance in the spring. Longer term plans for the float will need to worked out. They include new banners and upgraded hand rails among other improvements.

Eagle Scout Program - **Co Chairs Nihil Smith**. Three Eagle Scout Courts of Honor have been held in the last month. We will invite the new Eagle Scouts to our yearly picnic.

1915 - Presentations. Kevin Jordan from History Flight gave a presentation on his organizations efforts to repatriate the remains of U.S. Servicemen. History Flights crowning achievement in the last few years has been the recovery of 306 remains of U.S. Marines and Sailors killed in the Battle of Tarawa in November 1943.

Shipmate Dean Hickman gave a presentation detailing the dedication of the sail monument for USS Mariano G. Vallejo (SSBN 658). The Sail is on display at the Mare Island Historic Park in Vallejo, CA.

2025 - Base Commander called for a break. 50/50 Raffle held. The winner donated part of the proceeds the Scholarship Fund.

2050 - Unfinished Business

FLOAT STORAGE STATUS - Naval Base San Diego will be opening a new RV storage lot adjacent to the Mini Mart at Rosecrans and Nimitz. We will be moving the float to that lot when it opens. When we make the move we will obtain and install a new float cover. The Base anticipates opening the lot in January (or later).

VFW STORAGE AREA. We will help the VFW rehab the storage garage after the Solar Parking Area is completed. The Base Commander will call for a working party later early next year.

WREATH LAYING AT 52 BOATS. The Wreath Laying took place on 6 December 2019 at 0900 in conjunction with the Point Loma Association. Donations for this year's wreaths are now being accepted. See the Base Commander if you want to donate. Each wreath costs approximately \$15.00.

December 7th Remembrance and Memorial Service. USS BONEFISH Base hosted this service at the Veterans Amphitheater on the grounds of the Riverside National Cemetery. 22495 Van Buren Blvd, Riverside, CA 92518. Several San Diego Base members attended. This will be annual affair going forward.

LIVE STREAMING OF OUR MEETINGS. The COB is looking into equipment/platforms/services to be able to stream the meetings on the Internet. Past Base Commander Fred Fomby will find out which USSVI Bases use Live Streaming and ask them for some insight. The Base Secretary reported on the feasibility of using Facebook as a platform.

ANNUAL DUES are currently due. Please pay the Membership Chairman or the Base Commander.

MEETING AT TERRY ULMER's MOPAR Museum in Alpine. The Base Commander and Base Secretary will pursue a date for a meeting at Terry's Place this spring or summer.

2106 - NEW BUSINESS

THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE will meet for the Yearly Review on 4 January 2020.

HONOR FLIGHT - The E-Board will research the feasibility of donating to and/or other support for the next Honor Flight San Diego. The next flight is tentatively scheduled for May 2020.

2110 - Good of the Order

The 2020 NATIONAL CONVENTION - will be in Tucson AZ - 24 through 30 Aug 2020.

The 2021 NATIONAL CONVENTION - will be in Orlando at Rosen Shingle Creek.

The 2022 National Convention - will be in Buffalo NY

SILENT SERVICE TV SHOW is available at olgoat.com

DEEP SUBMERGENCE REUNION will be held in San Diego 25-27 September 2020.

FLOAT PLANS - Charleston Base has asked for any plans, dimensions, suggestions we may have as they are designing a float. We will contact them with our diagrams, etc.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2118.

/s/ Jack E. Kane

Jack Kane, Secretary

Sailing List for 10 December 2019

Members

Jose Acay
 Matt Baumann
 Bob Bissonnette
 Jim Boydston
 Warren Branges
 Manny Burciaga
 Kip Casper
 Mike Cosgrove
 Bill Earl
 Joel Eikam
 Ed Farley
 Bob Farrell
 Ray Febrache
 Russ Filbeck
 Rick Hausvik
 Dean Hickman
 Paul Hitchcock
 Jack Kane
 Peter Lary
 Jim Pope
 Nihil D. Smith
 Mert Weltzien

Guests

Jessie Chang Farley
 Kevin Jordan

San Diego Base, United States Submarine Veterans Inc.
Minutes of Meeting - 14 January 2020
At VFW Hall, 4370 Twain Avenue, San Diego CA 92120

1902 - Base Commander Warren Branges called the meeting to order.

Conducted Opening Exercises - Pledge of Allegiance lead by **Chief of the Boat Bob Bissonnette**.

Base Commander Warren Branges lead the opening prayer and gave an Eternal Patrol Report. EMCS(SS) James Fox went on eternal patrol on 5 November 2019. Jim qualified on USS William H. Bates SSN-680 in 1973. Jim was USSVI Life Member and dual member of Dallas and San Diego bases.

Chief of the Boat Bob Bissonnette conducted Tolling of the Boats for boats lost in the month of January.

Senior Vice Commander Manny Burciaga recognized Past Commanders, dignitaries and guests

Base Secretary Jack Kane announced 21 members and 1 guest present.

Base Commander Warren Branges gave the end of year financial report. Base Treasurer Mike Cosgrove was absent and will present the January Treasurer's report at the next meeting.

MINUTES OF THE December 2019, January 2020 meetings will be published in the Sentinel.

Base Commander Warren Branges called for Committee Reports

Binnacle List - Sergio Frost, Joe Peluso, and Tony Dack are on Binnacle. The Base Commander will check on the status of Terry Ulmer. Terry invited us to his complex in Alpine, but has had some health issues.

Parade Committee - Chairman Jack Kane. The next parade is Linda Vista on 25 April 2020. Maps and parade instructions will be distributed when received from the Parade Committee.

Membership Committee - Chairman Ray Febrache reported we have 235 members. Ray will be stepping down as Membership Chair due to health issues. We will need a volunteer for this position.

Scholarship Committee - Committee Chairman Paul Hitchcock. Application deadline is 15 April 2020. Any member who sponsors a Scholarship Candidate is advised to review applications before submission. Any submission not meeting minimum criteria will be returned to the candidate without consideration. Applications are available on our website.

Storekeeper - Chairman Paul Hitchcock. Calendars are available at \$10 per. See Paul at the break to purchase yours.

Breakfast Committee - Chairman Base Commander Warren Branges. The last breakfast on 29 December 2019 netted \$65.04. The next breakfast is 29 March. Some volunteers are needed for this Breakfast. We also need a volunteer to assist with Breakfast days in the upcoming year.

52 Boat Memorial - Chairman Base Commander Warren Branges. - The next All Flags Day will be Saturday, 11 April 2020 (Submarine Birthday). We will post flags at 0700 and retrieve them at 1630. The first of the new markers (Gudgeon) will be ready in February. We will try to salvage the dolphins from the front of markers as they are replaced. Those dolphins will be available sale and/or use as honoraria.

Float Committee - Chairmanship open. The new parking area is under construction. We will be moving the float to it's new location. See the Base Commander to volunteer to help with the move.

Eagle Scout Program - Co Chairs Nihil Smith. No Eagle Scout Ceremonies are currently scheduled. We have 9 Scouts who will conceivably finish requirements for Eagle Scout in the next few months.

1930 - Presentations. No tonight. We will have the OIC Submarine Learning Center give a presentation in the coming months. Shipmate Russ Fillbeck has invited USS BLACKFIN Reunion attendees to our May meeting.

1936 - Base Commander called for a break. 50/50 Raffle held. The winner Jim Harer donated his winnings to the Scholarship Fund.

1951 - Unfinished Business

FLOAT STORAGE STATUS - Naval Base San Diego will be opening a new RV storage lot adjacent to the Mini Mart at Rosecrans and Nimitz. We will be moving the float to that lot when it opens. When we make the move we will obtain and install a new float cover. The Base anticipates opening the lot in February (or later). See the Base Commander if you are able to help with the move.

BASE ROSTER VERIFICATION and EMail Verification is continuing. Please respond if you get an email from USSVI San Diego Base.

VFW STORAGE AREA. We will help the VFW rehab the storage garage after the Solar Parking Area is completed. The Base Commander will call for a working party later early next year. We will have a estimate of the cost for consideration at the February meeting.

ANNUAL DUES are currently due. Please pay the Membership Chairman or the Base Commander. Check your status on the National Website. Some members will lose longevity if not paid soon.

WESTERN REGION ROUNDUP will be **22-27 March**. Sign up on their website. <https://wrroundup.com>.

THE SUBVET CHRISTMAS PARTY was a **rousing success**. We served 93 meals with 86 attendees and 7 meals to go. Mark your calendar for next year - 12 December 2020.

THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL Review was **completed on 4 January**. No discrepancies were found. Some procedural recommendations were made and will be implemented by the Treasurer.

2007 - NEW BUSINESS

THE NEW NATIONAL WEBSITE is progressing. Please check your personal data on the site. We want to make sure all the data is correct when we move it to the new site.

WWII SUBVET SPONSORSHIP AT SUBMARINE BIRTHDAY BALL. The Base will sponsor Charlie Tate (+1). We will vote on helping Scamp Base with their sponsorship if they have two honorees.

SILENT SENTINEL - After 20 years of Editorship Mike Hyman is resigning from the Silent Sentinel. Mike was thanked for his dedication to this task for so many years. We will need a new Editor. If you are interested please let the Base Commander know.

ANNUAL SUBVET PICNIC. We have reserved Smugglers Cove for the Annual Picnic on 18 July 2020. We are looking in to touring the Submarine Learning Center in addition to Submarine Tours.

2011 - Good of the Order

The 2020 NATIONAL CONVENTION - will be in Tucson AZ - 24 through 30 Aug 2020.

The 2021 NATIONAL CONVENTION - will be in Orlando at Rosen Shingle Creek.

The 2022 National Convention - will be in Buffalo NY

SILENT SERVICE TV SHOW is available at olgoat.com

DEEP SUBMERGENCE REUNION will be held in San Diego 25-27 September 2020.

COLLEY O'GORMAN's Family will hold a surprise 95th Birthday for Colley at Mother Earth Brewery in Visa on 22 January. See the Base Commander for details.

SHIPMATE JOEL EIKAM sends regards. Joel and his wife Yvonne are moving to Washington State on January 23rd. They are planning to visit San Diego next year and attend the Christmas Party.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2016.

/s/ *Jack E. Kane*

Jack Kane, Secretary

Sailing List for 14 JANUARY 2020

Members

Matt Baumann

Bob Bissonnette

Warren Branges

Manny Burciaga

Kip Casper

Ed Farley

Bob Farrell

Ray Febrache

Russ Filbeck

Jim Harer

Dean Hickman

Paul Hitchcock

Mike Hyman

Jack Kane

Dennis Mortensen

William Pickering

Jim Pope

Chris Stafford

Nihil D. Smith

Mert Weltzien

Greg Vechinski

Guests

Jessie Chang Farley



APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP

OUR CREED: *“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.”*

With my signature I affirm that I subscribe to the Creed of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI), and agree to abide by the Constitution, all Bylaws, Regulations and Procedures governing the USSVI so long as they do not conflict with my military or civil obligations. I will furnish further proof of my eligibility if required by Base or National Membership Chairman. If I am not discharged, then the discharge requirement is waived. If I am not U.S. Navy submarine qualified, then I am applying as an Associate and my sponsor is indicated below.

- I certify that I was designated qualified in USN Submarines aboard _____ in _____ (Yr)
(Honorary designations regardless of source do not apply under any circumstances.)
- I certify that I received a discharge under Honorable Conditions (if not currently in military service) in _____ (Yr)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
Name: _____ **Phone:** _____
Address: _____ **Email:** _____
City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Sponsor: _____ **Associate Applicant is:** Veteran Veteran Spouse Other: _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES			
AGE	TERM	SAN DIEGO BASE	NATIONAL
Any	1 Year	\$20	\$25 [1]
Any	3 Years	\$55	\$70
Any	5 Years	\$90	\$115
≥76	Life	\$100	\$100
66-75	Life	\$200	\$200
56-65	Life	\$300	\$300
46-55	Life	\$400	\$400
≤45	Life	\$500	\$500
Please make check payable to USSVI for the total of San Diego Base and National Dues. Mail completed Application, Dues, and attached Biographical Data to Membership Chairman:		Ray Ferbrache 2955 Lloyd Street San Diego, CA 92117-6031 arayz@san.rr.com	

[1] If joining between October 1 and December 31, then dues are \$30 to cover current year and following year.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA (New Members)

Please provide the information requested below. This information will be retained in the National and/or San Diego Base database for future reference, and it is limited to use only by USSVI occasionally for the purpose of publishing interesting facts about your service.

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY): _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Next of kin (if other than spouse) Relationship : _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Life Member Number (*when assigned*): _____

Date First Enlisted (MM/DD/YY): _____

Date Discharged (MM/DD/YY): _____

Active Duty currently? Yes No Retired ? Yes No

Total Years of Service: _____ Highest Rate/Rank Attained: _____

First Qualification Date Month: _____ Year: _____

FIRST QUAL BOAT	HULL NO.	YEARS	RATE or RANK
		to	
OTHER BOAT	HULL NO.	YEARS	RATE or RANK
		to	
		to	
		to	
		to	
		to	
		to	