

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



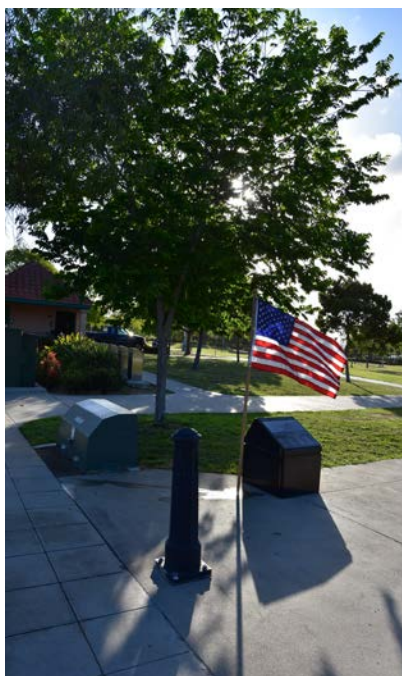
# THE SILENT SENTINEL



## May/June 2019

### 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



Laying of the Wreath on Memorial Day 2019 at  
**52 Boat Memorial - Liberty Station San Diego**

## **U.S. Submarine Veterans San Diego Base**

**Base Commander - Warren Branges 619-461-0464**  
**8030 Laird Street, La Mesa, CA 91942-2601**  
**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 Chairman- Jack Kane 619-602-1801**  
**2498 Boyington Place, El Cajon, CA 92020**  
**jkane32@cox.net or subvetparades@cox.net**

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

**Newsletter Editor Mike Hyman**  
**Voice/Fax/Message: 619-223-9344**  
**3639 Midway Drive, B-320, San Diego, CA 92110-5354**  
**stamps@fortunesofwar.com**

**Chaplain - David Martinez 858-565-6165**  
**4283 Mt. Herbert Ave, San Diego Ca 92117**

**Chief of the Boat - Bob Bissonnette**  
**H: 619-644-8933 Cell: 619-251-7095**

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

**The VFW Post 3787—4370 Twain Avenue, San Diego, CA**

**NEXT MEETING  
TUESDAY, 11 June 2019 - 1900 (7:00pm)  
E-Board at 1800 (6:00pm)**

## **Submarine Losses for the Month of June**



BC Patch

### **USS HERRING SS 233**

Lost on June 1, 1944 with the loss of 83 men near Matsuwa Island. Herring was on her 8th war patrol and was conducting a surface attack when a shore battery spotted her and made 2 direct hits on her conning tower and causing her loss. Before being sunk, she had sank a freighter and a passenger-cargoman. Herring was the only US submarine sunk by a land battery



BC Patch

### **USS R-12**

Lost on June 12, 1943 with the loss of 42 men near Key West, FL during a practice torpedo approach. The cause was probably due to flooding through a torpedo tube. The CO and 2 other men on the bridge survived, as did 18 crew members on liberty at the time of the accident.



### **USS GOLET SS-361**

Lost on June 14, 1944 with the loss of 82 men. On her 2nd war patrol, Golet was apparently lost in battle with antisubmarine forces north of Honshu.



# Submarine Losses for the Month of June Continued



BC Patch

## USS BONEFISH SS 223

Lost on June 18, 1945 with the loss of 85 men when sunk near Suzu Misaki. Winner of 3 Navy Unit Citations, Bonefish was on her 8th war patrol. After sinking a passenger-cargoman, Bonefish was subjected to a savage depth charge attack



## USS S-27 (SS-132)

Lost on June 19, 1942 when it grounded off Amchitka Island. She was on the surface in poor visibility, charging batteries and drifted into the shoals. When she could not be freed and started listing, the captain got the entire crew to shore (400 yards away) in relays using a 3-man rubber raft. The entire crew was subsequently rescued.

## USS O-9 (SS-70)

## USS O-9 (SS-70)

Lost on Jun 20, 1941 with the loss of 33 when it foundered of Isle of Shoals, 15 miles from Portsmouth NH.



## USS RUNNER SS-275

Lost between June 26 & July 4th 1943 with the loss of 78 men. Runner was on her 3rd war patrol probably due to a mine. Prior to her loss, she reported sinking a freighter and a passenger-cargoman off the Kuriles. This boat's last known ship sunk happened on June 26th, so she probably hit that mine on or after that date but before July 4th, when she was scheduled back at Midway.

A Motley Crew at the April Meeting.



## The Silent Sentinel via Email

To all of my shipmates and families who currently receive of great newsletter via the mail who would like it sent via email or continue to receive it via mail, please fill out the form and mail it to the base. We are trying to cut the cost of the newsletter down. By receiving the Silent Sentinel via email you will help cut the cost of printing and mailing. The other plus to receiving it via email is you can save it on your computer and not have the paper lying around the house.

*A subscription to the Silent Sentinel newsletter will be available to surviving family members via internet email, at no charge, upon notification to the Membership Chairman. If a printed hard-copy is preferred, via US Post Office delivery, an annual donation of \$5.00 will be requested to cover costs.*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Would Like the SILENT SENTINEL emailed: Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

**USSVI**  
**c/o VFW Post 3787**  
**4370 Twain Ave, San Diego, CA 92120-3404**



Preparing the Float for the Ramona Main Street Parade

# UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL FLAGS  
AT 52 BOAT MEMORIAL  
Flag Day 14 June 2019  
Post Colors at 0700  
Retire the Colors at 1730

SAN DIEGO BASE - SUNDAY BREAKFAST  
at VFW POST 3787, 4370 Twain Ave, San Diego  
0800 til 1130 \$8.00 Donation

ALL FLAGS  
AT 52 BOAT MEMORIAL  
Independence Day, Thursday  
July 4th 2019  
Post Colors at 0700  
Retire the Colors at 1730

JULIAN 4th of JULY PARADE  
Parade Starts at Noon  
Muster at 1030  
BBQ at the Julian American Legion after the Parade



# **SAVE THE DATE!!!**

## **2019 Annual SUBVETS Family Picnic**

**Where: Smuggler's Cove on Point Loma Naval Base**

**When: Saturday, July 13th Time: 0900 - 1630**

**Why: Food, Games, Swimming, Sub Tours and Door Prizes and the chance to visit with your Shipmates and their families.**

**Burgers, hot dogs, brats, condiments, chips, beer, wine, soda and water provided.**

**Plates, cups, napkins and utensils provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. We'll even freeze home-made ice cream!! Bring your beach or lawn chairs and relax!!**

### **Submarine Tours:**

Submarine tours are planned for 1000 and 1300. To allow proper planning and coordination with Submarine Squadron Eleven, please submit your tour request no later than Friday, June 28 to [sdsubvets@gmail.com](mailto:sdsubvets@gmail.com). There are strict limits on the size of the tour group and tour slots usually fill up early - don't wait until the last minute! Please review the tour information below:

- Provide the full name of each tour participant and which tour (1000 or 1300) is preferred. We will try to honor your preference; you will be notified if a time slot change is required.
- All tour participants over the age of 18 must carry a government-issued ID (e.g. Driver's License).
- All tour participants must be U.S. citizens. Minimum age for tour participants is eight years old.
- DO NOT bring cameras, cell phones, smart watches, tablets, etc. with you on the tour.
- You will need to climb vertical ladders; jeans or slacks suggested. You must wear closed-toe shoes.
- As always, boat tours are dependent on submarine availability and are subject to last minute schedule changes or cancellation.
- We will muster 30 minutes before the start of each tour. There will be a standby list maintained after the normal slots are filled – we'll use that list to fill-in for cancellations and no-shows.

Mark your calendars and join your Shipmates at  
Smuggler's Cove on July 13<sup>th</sup>!!!



If you have any questions, contact Warren at [sdsubvets@gmail.com](mailto:sdsubvets@gmail.com) or (619) 971-8292.

**San Diego Base, United States Submarine Veterans Inc.**

**Minutes of Meeting - 9 April 2019**

**At VFW Hall, 4370 Twain Avenue, San Diego CA 92120**

**1908 - Base Commander Warren Branges called the meeting to order.**

Conducted Opening Exercises - Pledge of Allegiance lead by **Past Base Commander Fred Fomby**

**Chaplain David Martinez** lead the opening prayer. A moment of silence was observed for SKSCM(SS) Alberto "Alby" Poblete who went on Eternal Patrol 24 March 2019. Master Chief Poblete qualified on USS Seafox (SS-402) in 1961.

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

**Base Junior Vice Commander Joe Peluso** recognized Past Commanders, dignitaries and guests.

**Base Secretary Jack Kane** announced 25 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 March 2018 meeting were published in the Sentinel. Minutes were adopted with one change. New Member's name is Rick Hausvik vice Hansvik.

**Base Commander Warren Branges called for Committee Reports**

**Binnacle List** - Chris Sultana, Len Heiselt and Tony Dack are on Binnacle.

**Parade Committee** - Chairman Jack Kane announced the next parade is Linda Vista on Saturday, 27 April 2019. We are scheduled to attend. Chairman will confirm our entry with the Parade Committee. Maps and further information will be sent via e-mail upon receipt from the Linda Vista Parade Coordinator. We have invitations to several Parades. The Executive Board recommends we participate in parades as follows: Ramona on 11 May 2019, La Mesa on 1 June 2019, Julian on 4 July 2019 and Poway on 7 September 2019. We will forgo the Rancho De Los Penasquitos parade on 5 May 2019. The Chairman will prepare registration for each parade.

**Membership Committee** - Chairman Ray Febrache (absent) . The Base Commander reports we have 239 members. The National Database is still FUBAR. Warren Branges and Ray Febrache are working on reconciling their list with ours.

**Scholarship Committee** - Committee Chairman Paul Hitchcock. Scholarship packages are due on 15 April 2019. He needs 3 volunteers to review scholarship packages. One package has been received to date. We expect one more before the deadline.

**Storekeeper** - Paul Hitchcock. Calendars are available for \$10 each. BC Patch has a new catalog out. We are purging old stock and developing a new purchasing pipeline. We are pursuing new storage arrangements (see New Business).

**Breakfast Committee** - Chair Base Commander Warren Branges. The Breakfast on 31 March 2019 cleared \$383.37 with 71 paid meals. Next breakfast is 30 June 2019. We need volunteers for the kitchen and to run coffee. The VFW Kitchen Supervisor will hold a certification/re-cert class for Food Handlers at 0700 that morning.

**52 Boat Memorial** - Chair Base Commander Warren Branges - The next All Flags Day will be Thursday, 11 April 2018 (U.S. Submarine Force Birthday). We will put up flags at 0700 and take them down at 1700.

**Float Committee** - Chairmanship open.

**Eagle Scout Program** - Co Chairs Nihil Smith and Glenn Gerbrand. Nothing new to report.

**1927 - COMSUBRON ELEVEN Command Master Chief CMDCM(SS) J.R. O'Donnell** gave a presentation and took questions about the current state of the Command and Submarine prospects for Point Loma.

**2007** - Base Commander called for a break. 50/50 Raffle held.

**2027 - 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.

**BASE ROSTER AND EMAIL VERIFICATIONS** are continuing. If you a verification email please respond. We are still reconciling the Base List with National List. National just provided a revised list with 100+ names that need to be reconciled.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES.** If your dues are lapsed please see the Base Commander.

**WWII SUB VET SPONSORSHIP at Submarine Ball.** We will sponsor Charlie Tate. We currently have 34 SUBVETS planning to attend. Scamp Base will sponsor George Kinneson and Colley O'Gorman if either or both are able to attend.

**TOLLING OF THE BOATS** will be held at Roncador on Friday 12 April. Taco Lunch after the ceremony is \$10.00. Pay at the door.



## 2040 - NEW BUSINESS

**DISTRICT COMMANDERS NEEDED.** We currently have District Commander positions open for Districts 2 and 7. District 6 will soon be vacant also. Anyone interested see the Base Commander.

**MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY** will be held at 1000 on May 27th, 2019. Speaker will be COMSUBRON 11 or a CSS-11 assigned Submarine Commanding Officer. We are looking for a Master of Ceremonies. Pursuing a COB from CSS-11 assigned units. Other arrangements are coming together. If you are available to escort attendees onto the Base let the Base Commander know.

**ANNUAL SUBMARINE VETERANS FAMILY PICNIC** will be held at Smugglers Cove, Naval Base Point Loma on Saturday, 13 July 2019 - 0900 till ????. The Base Commander will ask for volunteers (cooks, setup, games, etc) at the next meeting. Invitations are being sent to USSVI Bases in Southern California, Arizona and Nevada. Two Submarine Tours will be held that day. Please contact the Base Commander with names of attendees. The earlier the better. These tours fill up quick. We will also have a "Holland Club" Induction Ceremony at the picnic.

**NEW STORAGE AT VFW.** E-Board is looking at obtaining/building new storage lockers in the VFW Garage. Cost will be \$300 to \$400 for new lockers and some volunteer time to clean out the garage and setup new lockers. The Base Commander will ask for volunteers as negotiations with VFW progress.

## 2053- Good of the Order

**2019 National Convention is 14-20 August in Austin TX.** Details are at: <http://ussviconvention.org/2019/>  
**OUTYEAR CONVENTIONS** - 2020 will be in Tucson and 2021 will be in Orlando at Rosen Shingle Creek.

**SILENT SERVICE TV SHOW** is available at [olgoat.com](http://olgoat.com)

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

**PAST BASE COMMANDER Fred Fomby's** grandson participated with his High School NROTC Unit in the National Drill Competition in Florida. The Unit placed 5th overall with several individuals from the unit winning individual honors.

**SUBMARINE TOURS** are available at times other than the Annual Picnic. If you are interested in taking a tour contact the Base Commander.

AN AUCTION of Submarine Memorabilia was held.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2109.

*/s/ Jack E. Kane*

Jack Kane, Secretary

## Sailing List for 9 April 2019

### Members

Jose Acay

Matt Baumann

Bob Bissonnette

Manny Burciaga

Warren Branges

Kip Casper

Mike Cosgrove

Bill Earl

Joel Eikam

Ed Farley

Bob Farrell

Fred Fomby

Jim Harer

Paul Hitchcock

Jack Kane

Peter Lary

Pete Lustria

David Martinez

Dennis Mortensen

Joe Peluso

William Pickering

Jim Pope

Nihil D. Smith

Chris Stafford

John Zinich

### Guests

Jessie Chang Farley

CMCDM(SS) J.R. O'Donnell

**San Diego Base, United States Submarine Veterans Inc.**

**Minutes of Meeting - 14 May 2019**

**At VFW Hall, 4370 Twain Avenue, San Diego CA 92120**

**1908 - Base Commander Warren Branges called the meeting to order.**

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

**Chief of the Boat Bob Bissonnette** lead the opening prayer. A moment of silence was observed for HMC(SS) Everett Mauger and ENCS(SS) John Harris who both commenced Eternal Patrol on 23 and 29 April 2019 respectively. HMC(SS) Mauger qualified on USS Bleny SS-324 in 1959. ENCS(SS) Harris qualified on USS Ronquil SS-396 in 1964.

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

**Base Secretary Jack Kane** recognized Past Commanders, dignitaries and guests.

**Base Secretary Jack Kane** announced 23 members and 1 Guest present. We have two new members tonight. Jim Boydston and Dean Hickman.

**Base Treasurer Mike Cosgrove** presented the Treasurer's report. A copy of the Report will be filed with these minutes. Minutes of the April 2019 meeting were not published in the Sentinel. Copies were distributed before the meeting. No changes or additions heard at this time - Minutes are accepted and will be published in the next edition of the Sentinel.

**Base Commander Warren Branges called for Committee Reports**

**Binnacle List** - Chris Sultana, Len Heiselt, Sergio Frost, Mike Hyman, David Martinez and Tony Dack are on Binnacle.

**Parade Committee** - Chairman Jack Kane announced the next parade is La Mesa Flag Day. We are scheduled to attend. Chairman will confirm our entry with the Parade Committee. Maps and further information will be sent via e-mail upon receipt from the La Mesa Parade. We participated in the Ramona Main Street Parade on 11 May 2019.

**Membership Committee** - Chairman Ray Febrache reported we have 241 members.

**Scholarship Committee** - Committee Chairman Paul Hitchcock. We have 3 Scholarship packages onboard. Bob Bissonnette, Ray Febrache and Dean Hickman volunteered to review scholarship packages. We will have the results at the next meeting.

**Storekeeper** - Paul Hitchcock. Calendars are available for \$10 each. We have some hats left in stock. We are purging old stock and developing a new purchasing pipeline. We are pursuing new storage arrangements (see Unfinished Business).

**Breakfast Committee** - Chairman Base Commander Warren Branges. Next breakfast is 30 June. We need volunteers for the kitchen and to run coffee. The VFW Kitchen Supervisor will hold a certification/re-cert class for Food Handlers at 0700 that morning. Check the list on the bulletin board for your status.

**52 Boat Memorial** - Chairman Base Commander Warren Branges. - The next All Flags Day will be Saturday, May 18th 2019 (Armed Forces Day) and then again on Monday, 27 May (Memorial Day). We will put up flags at 0700 and take them down at 1730. The 52 Boat Memorial Board is working with San Diego Parks and Recreation about changing the markers to a Polished Concrete vice Granite. The Granite Markers are not aging as well as expected. They are also asking Parks and Rec about feasibility of offering "dedication benches" in the park.

**Float Committee** - Chairmanship open. The Float will need some refurbishment after we move to the new parking area (See Unfinished Business)

**Eagle Scout Program** - Co Chairs Nihil Smith and Glenn Gerbrand. No Report.

**Presentations. We will have Video next month on WWII Submarine Operations.**

**1932** - Base Commander called for a break. 50/50 Raffle held. Paul Hitchcock donated his winnings to the Scholarship Fund.

**1950 - 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 July.

**BASE ROSTER AND EMAIL VERIFICATIONS** are continuing. If you a verification email please respond. We are still reconciling the Base List with National List.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES.** If your dues are lapsed please see the Base Commander.

**CONTACT CARDS.** New Contact Cards are available on the Back Table. The Cards have a space for your name and contact number. Pick some up on your way out.

**MEMORIAL DAY AT RONCADOR.** Plans are progressing. CO Alexandria will be the Speaker. COB Alexandria will be MC. CSS-11 will provide the Chaplain and Bugles across America will play TAPS. The Ceremony will start at 1000. If you have access to the base stop at the parking lot and escort a shipmate.

**VFW STORAGE AREA.** We will help the VFW rehab the storage garage after the Solar Parking Area is completed.

**DISTRICT COMMANDERS NEEDED.** We currently have District Commander positions open for Districts 2 and 7. District 6 will soon be vacant also. Willy Williams has some medical issues and will be stepping down. Anyone interested see the Base Commander.

**ANNUAL SUBMARINE VETERANS FAMILY PICNIC** will be held at Smugglers Cove, Naval Base Point Loma on Saturday, 13 July 2019 - 0900 till ????. The Base Commander will ask for volunteers (cooks, setup, games, etc) at the next meeting. Invitations are being sent to USSVI Bases in Southern California , Arizona and Nevada. Two Submarine Tours will be held that day. Please contact the Base Commander with names of attendees. The earlier the better. These tours fill up quick. We will also have a "Holland Club" Induction Ceremony at the picnic.

## 2040 - NEW BUSINESS

### 2041 - Good of the Order

**2019 National Convention is 14-20 August in Austin TX.** Details are at: <http://ussviconvention.org/2019/>

**OUTYEAR CONVENTIONS** - 2020 will be in Tucson and 2021 will be in Orlando at Rosen Shingle Creek.

**SILENT SERVICE TV SHOW** is available at [olgoat.com](http://olgoat.com)

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

**Treasurer Mike Cosgrove** recommends that anyone visiting New Orleans Area be sure to see the National WWII Museum. Of special interest if the USS TANG Exhibit

**A MODEL OF A MK-48 Torpedo** donated by Kip Casper will be auctioned at the next meeting.

**New Member Dean Hickman's Band (Pomerado Community Band)** will be playing at the Community Band Festival in Old Poway Park at 1700 on 19 May. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**SCAMP BASE** is holding their yearly raffle. This year's First Prize is a \$250 Gift Certificate to Turner's Outdoorsman. See the Chief of the Boat for tickets.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2022.

*/s/ Jack E. Kane*

Jack Kane, Secretary

## Sailing List for 14 May 2019

### Members

Matt Baumann  
Jim Boydston  
Bob Bissonnette  
Manny Burciaga  
Warren Branges  
Kip Casper  
Mike Cosgrove  
Bill Earl  
Joel Eikam  
Ed Farley

Bob Farrell  
Ray Febrache  
Fred Fomby  
Jim Harer  
Dean Hickman  
Paul Hitchcock  
Jack Kane  
Dennis Mortensen  
Bob Oberting  
William Pickering

Chris Stafford  
Mert Weltzien  
John Zinich

### Guests

Jessie Chang Farley




Judged #1 Float at La Mesa Flag Day Parade

## Editor's Note

As you may have noticed this month's Sentinel has a different look to it. Editor Mike Hyman is on Binnacle. In his absence I have attempted to put together a facsimile of the newsletter. Any short-comings in the final product are not a reflection on Mike's teaching ability, but rather on my capacity to learn and apply what he showed me. Please join me in wishing Mike a speedy recovery.

Jack Kane - Assistant Editor  
619-602-1801 - [jkane32@cox.net](mailto:jkane32@cox.net)

  
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Irvine, CA 92606  
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Owner / Notary Public

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FAX 619 221-8006

  
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619 584-0188 Fax