All Clear



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF NORTH CAROLINA SUBVETS

Second Issue 2021



Photo of S-28 June 1943

S-28 - WWII, Lost, Memorial and Found

North Carolina Submarine Veterans Leadership

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ALL CLEAR is the award winning quarterly publication of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI) sharing information from all USSVI bases in North Carolina

USSVI CREED AND PURPOSE

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.

Proud Members of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. USSVI.org

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THE NORTH CAROLINA SUBVETS STATE COMMANDER - July 2021

SHIPMATES: Are we back to "normal" yet? The Torpedo float will have a new home in the Edenton area, a member of the Albemarie Sound Base; Mitch Collier has offered use of a pole barn on his property. Any base that wants the float for an event must contact me to reserve it. E-mail with the, Date of event, pickup date and return date. (First come first served). If you need help with transportation, some kind of relay system may be able to be arranges if you contact me and try to work something out.

The Moonshine Mountain memorial service in May was a great getaway after being "sheltered in place" for over a year. The banner that Frans van Baars designed was a huge success. Hopefully we will have more events this year so Subvets can return to "normal" and have gatherings for all of the Submarine Sailors to attend. Looking forward to the Pearl Harbor event, Kings Bay memorial event and any others.

Change #9 to the NC Subvets Charter has been approved by six of the seven NC bases. I request that all NC Subvet Base Commanders discuss with their membership what should be done with the NC Subvets Charter. Should we disband the charter? Operate with six of the seven bases? Request some feedback by the next All Clear.

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North Carolina Subvets State Commander

Jerry Emerson

Torpedo Float New Home - Merry Hill, NC



Nathanael Greene and USS Asheville Base Picnics

At the July 31st Nathanael Green Base picnic the following longevity awards were presented:

- 5 years Gantt, Hughes, Kline, and Zilinski
- 15 years Clayton, Murphy, C. Nelson, Bridges (late award for 2020) •
- 20 years Hauser, Jensen, Kreh, Richey, Schenk, and Vernon.
- 25 years Galaviz Holland Club Rockers ·
- 55 years Barnhart, Keane, and Martel
- 60 years Jones
- 70 years Werner

New Holland Club Members

- John Weaver
- Gerald Schemanski
- William Robinson

At the USS Asheville Base, awards were presented and a flag retirement ceremony held.



USS Asheville Base Commander
Joe Schmidt inducts a new Holland
Club Member.

Worn flags are properly retired.



S-28 (SS-133)

The keel of USS S-28 (SS-133) was laid down in April of 1919, just months after the end of the First World War. This S-Class Submarine was commissioned December 13,1923 and spent sixteen years taking part in various Navy exercises in the Caribbean and eventually Pacific. When the bombs fell on December 7th she was being overhauled at Mare Is-

land Naval Shipyard outside of San Francisco, California. She was one of several S-boats that were sent North to Alaska to defend the Aleutians against a possible Japanese invasion. She saw action when the Japanese bombed the Aleutian Island port of Dutch Harbor just days after S-28 arrived in the area. She launched her first torpedo on June 18, 1942, missing her target. Her intended target, receiving no damage, subsequently attacked her. She would not take another shot until her third war patrol, in October that year when a ground in her fire-control circuits caused a torpedo to fire accidentally. The target escaped unharmed. The next three war patrols spotted no enemy vessels.

The USS S-28's seventh war patrol got off to a similarly unpromising start when, on September 15, 1943, her port main motor began smoking and sparking; it took crew members fourteen hours to repair it. Four days later she launched a spread of torpedoes at an enemy ship that all missed The vessel began dropping depth charges that the S-28 was able to avoid. The situation improved a few hours later when the boat fired a spread of four torpedoes at what turned out to be a 1,400-ton gunboat. Within three minutes Katsura Maru Number Two was sinking by the bow. At the conclusion of the patrol, S-28 turned south and made her way to Pearl Harbor for overhaul. For more than six months after the work was completed, she remained in the area for training.

On July 3rd 1944, she ventured into the waters off Oahu with the Coast Guard cutter RELI-ANCE to conduct antisubmarine warfare exercises. The final exercise called for the S-28 to make a 30 minute simulated torpedo run that began at 1730. The Reliance took up station four nautical miles from the S-28 and began to run Ease North while the S-28 ran the reciprocal course a few miles south of them. After running about 1.6 nautical miles the S-28 turned toward the North and began her run. The last contact was made with sonar at 1820. The RELIANCE called for assistance, but the ensuing search was in vain. An oil slick appeared in the area two days later, but the water was so deep that an investigation was impossible. She was lost with forty-nine crew.

- <u>S-28-Boat (lost52project.org)</u>

Submarine Monument at Battleship Park

History was made on May 5th, 2007 at Battleship Park in Wilmington, NC. Tarheel Chapter Cdr Subvets WWII Don Small and Tarheel Base Cdr Chuck Jensen unveiled a magnificent granite monument in front of an audience of over 200 inattendance. The monument is a memorial not only to the 52 lost submarines in WWII but was especially created to remember the 50* crewmembers who went down on the submarine S-28. North Carolina had been designated to memorialize the lost boat S-28 but until now this had not become a reality. Special guest speaker at the event was none other than Bill Klein the National President of Subvets WWII. He was well pleased with our accomplishment. Also in attendance was former S-28 crew member Jim Lewis. Jim was transferred off the S-28 only two days before the boat was lost and he lost many shipmates on that day July 4th 1944.

This dedication was a good opportunity to also host the Subvets WWII S.E. Regional and jointly with Subvets Inc. District 3 Regional. A real good turnout from the Chapters and Bases made the event successful and a good time was had by all. The guest speaker at the banquet was Submarine Force Master Chief Dean Irwin. Over 140 attended the dinner including three crewmembers from the newest submarine North Carolina SSN-777 which was slid into the water at 11:35 that morning.

Special thanks to Wayne Powell, Dick Kanning, Don Small, Chuck Jensen, and many of their helpers for making this a memorable event.

- All Clear 2nd Quarter 2007 Note: 49 men were lost with the S-28 - StM1 Levi Bolton was mistakenly included in the 1963 edition. He was not aboard when the boat was lost, and survived the war.

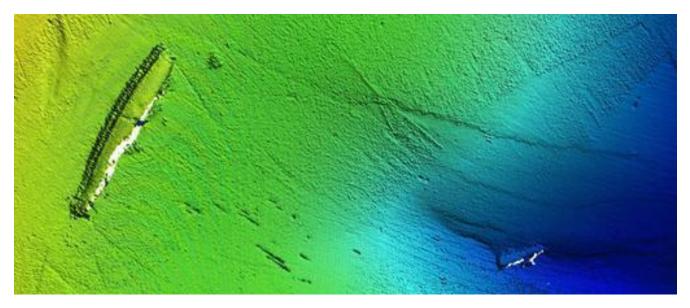
Expedition S-28

Expedition S-28 was launched in 2017 ,with sponsorship from <u>STEP Ventures</u>, to search for and document the USS S-28 (SS-133) S-class submarine, lost on July 4, 1944.

On September 20th, 2017, a team lead by noted award-winning explorer Tim Taylor discovered the remains of the WWII submarine lost in over 2600 meters (8500 feet) of water off the cost of Oahu, Hawaii.

Based on preliminary video and other documentation, the team currently speculates that the sub suffered a hull failure that resulted in the eventual separation of the bow, causing a near instant loss. She is the final resting place of 49 US sailors.

Visit this link for information about Expedition S-28 - <u>S-28-Boat (lost52project.org)</u>



Sonar image shows bow and stern 115 meters apart.

Shipmates,

As most of you know, Jack Jeffries has recently been diagnosed with Cancer. He has had radiation treatments for brain cancer and underwent chemo for a large malignant tumor in his left lung. He is having difficulty eating, talking, walking and is in a great amount of pain.

Jack at the Burnsville Memorial in May





In a late June visit, the crew of the USS Nathanael Greene (636) from left to right:

Larry Lynch (Livingston, TX) 636 Blue Crew MM, 64-69, served with Jack during new construction, Ron Busila, (Portsmouth, VA) 636 Gold Crew, MM 64-68, served with Jack on the Gold Commissioning Crew. Mark Schwaffee, (San Diego, CA) 636 Gold Crew TM 73-75, Friend of Jack's from multiple reunions, retired O-6. Ken Lamine, (Virginia Beach, VA) 636 Gold Crew MTCS [COB] 71-74, has never missed a reunion. same as Jack. JACK, (Monroe, NC) Gold Crew RM 63-69, never missed a reunion, loved by EVERYONE. Charlie (Ridge) Boynton, (Fayetteville, GA) 636 Gold Crew TM 75-79, Tom Carr, (Evansville, IN) 636 Gold Crew EM 73-75 636 Reunion Association President & Coordinator, Bruce Lobach, (Franklinton, VA) 636 Gold Crew EMC 75-80 current holder of the 636 Brow Canvas traveling trophy, Greg Hand, (Lawrenceburg, IN) 636 Gold Crew TM 75-76, 636 Reunion Association Treasurer & Storekeeper. Thanks to Tom Carr for the photo!

New NC Subvets Members

Tarheel Base



Phillip Morgan has resided in Holly Springs since 2009. His time in the Navy was from 1974-1980 leaving as a FTB-1. He qualified in 1975 aboard the SSBN656 George Washington Carver and also served aboard SSBN 624 Woodrow Wilson.

Keith Simpson lives in New Hill.

He qualified in 1991 aboard the USS Pennsylvania

SSBN -735 and left the Navy as a MT2.

















Visit with Martin Kirwan WWII Veteran

Chaplain Gene Rutter and Tarheel Base Commander had an visit with Martin who is nearing 100 years old.

On September 14, Martin Kirwan, Tarheel Base Member and WWII Submarine Veteran, will be celebrating his 100th Birthday. Martin is currently residing at Brookshire Nursing Center in Hillsborough, NC. Chaplain Rutter and me are planning a celebration at the Center on September 14



at 1330 and would like to see a good representation from the base. Chaplain Rutter has prepared a presentation and Tom McFadden is creating a gift for Martin. The facility has made it's dining room available for the party. Some of Martin's family will also attend.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER MAY 2021

With the loss of so many lives due to the Covid-19, and the loss of the crew of an Indonesian submarine, your Chaplain offers this simple prayer for the families, friends and associates of the many who have been affected by these two tragedies.

"In your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters."

In this life, you embraced them with your tender love; deliver them now from every evil and bid them eternal rest. The old order has passed away; welcome them into paradise, where there will be no sorrow, or weeping, or pain, but fullness or peace and joy with you Son and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen" In daily prayer, ask the Lord Jesus Christ for his help, his guidance, and support for all the people with health issues. And, do not forget to give thanks and blessings to all of your family, friends and associates. Give them a "Good Will" call to let them know that someone is thinking of them and cared enough to check up on them Also, do not forget your neighbors, especially those in their elder years. Let them know you are there for them should the need arise. By doing this, you are a soldier of God, carrying out his directions to all of mankind.

Respectfully submitted by Chaplain Gene Rutter USSVI Tarheel Base

Gene has been checking in on our over 80 veterans with limited sucess. Here is account of one of his conversations.

Everett Houston Morgan, who is 97.

He served on USS Blueback (SS326). He remembers three war patrols. Did some searching and found that these patrols were in the South China Sea and Jave Sea, where they sank a 300 ton **submarine chaser**, **as well as eight smaller vessels**. **The third and last war patrol was on July**, **1945**.

Obituaries

WWII Submarine Veteran George Roderick

George Edward Roderick walked into the presence of the Lord on Sunday, March 14th, one day before his 95th birthday. He was the beloved husband of 73 years to Nancy Ann Drew Roderick, whom he met when he was in the 10th grade. He and Ann have 3 daughters, Priscilla Eason (Bill) of Rocky Mount, Bridgette Stokes (Bert) of Jamestown, and Teresa Flanders (Mike) of Colfax, North Carolina. George was loved and known as "Papa" to 10 grandchildren, Jennifer Eason Thompson (Scott), Juli Eason Dees (Brandon), Kelcey Eason Stewart (Jeremy), Aaron Stokes (Anna), Drew Stokes (Kelley), Larkin Stokes Merritt (Phillip), Amy Flanders Bunch (Ryan), Mark Flanders (Denise), David Flanders (Casey), and Mary Flanders Metty (Nathan). He and Ann also have 36 great-grandchildren.

George entered the Navy at the age of 17 in 1943 at the height of WWII. He qualified for service in the submarine branch, where he served as an electrician on the USS Dentuda in the Pacific theater. He was discharged in August 1946 after having participated in the first atomic weapon test at Bikini Atoll. After his military service, he went to work as a lineman in Duplin County. He and Ann were married October 15, 1947. Shortly afterward, in 1948, he began a career with the US Postal Service, moving them to Washington, DC, Rocky Mount, NC and Charlotte, NC. Eventually retiring, he and Ann moved back to Duplin County to be close to family. They have been active members of Rose Hill Baptist Church for 37 years, where many friends have become like family. George was a special man, dearly loved by all who knew him. His many talents allowed him to help others, especially his ability to fix anything.

Some of the greatest times of joy for George and the whole family were being together at Christmas, Thanksgiving and at the beach each summer for many years. These are memories George helped create for our family that we will never forget. Our family is grateful for Papa's/Daddy's example he set for us over our entire lives and thankful to the LORD for having been in his family.

Harold William Dixon Jr TM1(SS)

Ships / boats served on: **SSBN-622, SS-564**Dual Membership: Tarheel and Coastal Carolina

Cold War Submariner Harold William Dixon Jr, born 1944, of Cary SC slipped his lines from the pier of life 3/19/2021. "Butterbean" qualified in submarines on the USS James Monroe (SSBN-622) in 1964 and was a TM1(SS) when he left the Navy. He received the LIFE SUBMARINER EMERITUS Award in 2019.



An active Life and Holland Club member of USSVI, he was

- Past National Chaplain. 2017 2019
- Tarheel Base Commander 2013-2014
- Tarheel Vice Commander 2008 -2012

Sailor, Rest your oar



POOLE, Hunter A., Jr., 60, died April 27, 2021 in Linville, NC due to complications of liver cancer. He is survived by his mother Olive Virginia Poole, his brother David A. Poole, sister-in-law Michelle Poole, and beloved Jack Russell "Tippy" Poole. He was preceded in death by his father, Hunter A. Poole Sr. A native of Raleigh, NC Hunter was born May 22, 1960 in the old Rex Hospital off Saint Mary's street. He graduated with a GED from Wake Tech in 1980 and later earned associate degrees in business and mechanics. Hunter was a Cold War veteran who served in the US Navy 1981-1988. He served his nation with distinction in the Submarine Service where he was recognized as the 1984

US Pacific Fleet Sailor of the Year. He was stationed in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and San Diego, California where he was also a Drill Instructor for the US Navy's Recruit Training Command.

LOST SUBMARINES - SECOND QUARTER

April

USS Pickerel (SS-177)	Lost on April 3, 1943 with the loss of 74 men while on her 7th war patrol near the eastern coast of northern Honshu, sunk by a depth charge attack.
USS Snook (SS- 279)	Lost on April 8, 1945 with the loss of 84 men while on her 9th war patrol off the east coast of northern Formosa. Her loss remains a mystery, but she may have been sunk by a Japanese submarine.
USS Thresher (SSN-593)	Lost on April 10, 1963 with the loss of 112 crew members and 17 civilian technicians during deep-diving exercises. 15 minutes after reaching test depth, she communicated with USS Skylark that she was having problems. Skylark heard noises "like air rushing into an air tank" - then, silence. Photos taken by Trieste proved Thresher had broken up in 1,400 fathoms of water, some 220 miles east of Boston.
USS Gudgeon (SS-211)	Lost on April 18, 1944 with the loss of 79 men while on her 12th war patrol and most likely due to a combined air and surface antisubmarine attack north of the Mariana Islands.
USS Grenadier (SS-210)	Lost on April 22, 1943 with no immediate loss of life while on her 6th war patrol in the Lem Voalan Strait west of Malaysia. She dove after being spotted by a plane, but was badly damaged by a bomb. After fighting back to the surface with no propulsion, she was attacked by another plane, which her crew shot down. When enemy ships arrived, the CO abandoned ship and scuttled the boat. 76 crew members were taken prisoner, 4 perished and 72 survived the war.

May

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USS Lagarto (SS-371)	Lost on May 3, 1945 with the loss of 86 men while on her 2nd war patrol. She is believed to have been lost to a radar equipped minelayer, which was then sunk by the USS Hawkbill two weeks later. Lagarto's wreckage has been located in the Gulf of Thailand.	
USS Scorpion (SSN-589)	USS Scorpion (SSN-589) Lost on May 22, 1968 with the loss of 99 men while returning to Norfolk, VA from a Mediterranean deployment. The exact cause of her loss has never been determined and her wreckage has been located about 400 miles southwest of the Azores.	
USS Squalus (SS-192)	Lost on May 23, 1939 due to a catastrophic valve failure during a test dive off the Isle of Shoals. 26 men drowned in the after compartments, 33 crew members were rescued. Later Squalus was raised and recommissioned as the USS Sailfish.	

USS Stickleback	During a training exercise with USS Silverstein (DE-534) on May 28,
(SS-415)	1958, Stickleback experienced a loss of power and broached 200
	yards in front of the Silverstein resulting in a collision with no loss of
	life. Stickleback sunk the next day, May 29, 1958.

June

USS Herring (SS-233)	Lost on June 1, 1944 with the loss of 83 men while on her 8th war patrol near Matsuwa Island, Kuriles. She was conducting a surface attack when a shore battery spotted her and made two direct hits on her conning tower and causing her loss.
USS R-12 (SS-89)	Lost on June 12, 1943 with the loss of 42 men during a practice torpedo approach. The cause was probably due to flooding through a torpedo tube. The CO and two other men on the bridge survived, as did 18 crew members on liberty at the time of the accident. R-12's wreckage has been located off Key West, FL.
USS Golet (SS-361)	Lost on June 14, 1944 with the loss of 82 men while on her 2nd war patrol. She was apparently lost in battle with antisubmarine forces north of Honshu, Japan.
USS Bonefish (SS-223)	Lost on June 18, 1945 with the loss of 85 men while on her 8th war patrol in Toyama Bay off the northern shores of Honshu, Japan. After sinking a passenger-cargoman, Bonefish was subjected to a savage depth charge attack.
USS S-27 (SS-132)	Lost on June 19, 1942 with no loss of life while on her 1st war patrol when it grounded off Amchitka Island in the Aleutians. 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 then rescued by PBY aircraft.
USS 0-9 (SS-70)	Lost on June 20, 1941 with the loss of 33 men when it foundered off Isle of Shoals, 15 miles from Portsmouth, NH.
USS Runner (SS-275)	Lost on or after June 26, 1943 with the loss of 78 men while on her 3rd war patrol. Prior to her loss, she reported sinking ships off the Kuriles, north of Japan on June 26 and is expected to have hit a mine on or after that date. She was expected at Midway about July 11, and not later than July 15.

Lost Boats - Third Quarter

July

USS S-28 (SS-133)	Lost on July 4, 1944 with the loss of 49 men while conducting training exercises off Hawaii with the US Coast Guard Cutter Reliance.
USS Robalo (SS-273)	Lost on July 26, 1944 with the loss of 77 men while on her 3rd war patrol. She struck a mine about 2 miles off the coast of Palawan. 4 men survived and swam ashore, then were imprisoned by the Japanese.
USS Grunion (SS-216)	Lost on July 30, 1942 with the loss of 70 men while on her 1st war patrol. She radioed that she sank two sub-chasers and damaged a third, but was never heard from again.
USS Gudgeon (SS-211)	Lost on April 18, 1944 with the loss of 79 men while on her 12th war patrol and most likely due to a combined air and surface antisubmarine attack north of the Mariana Islands Believed to have been sunk during a submerged attack on a Japanese warship. Grunion's wreckage has been located off Kiska Island in the Aleutians. Believed to have been sunk during a submerged attack on a Japanese warship. Grunion's wreckage has been located off Kiska Island in the Aleutians.

August

USS Bullhead (SS-332)	Lost on August 6, 1945 with the loss of 84 men while on her 3rd war in the Lombok Strait off the Bali coast when sunk by a depth charge dropped by a Japanese Army plane. Bullhead was the last submarine lost during WWII.
USS S-39 (SS-144)	Lost on August 13, 1942 after grounding on a reef off Rossel Island (Yela), New Guinea while on her 5th war patrol. The entire crew was able to get off and was rescued by the HMAS Katoomba
USS Flier (SS-250)	Lost on August 13, 1944, with the loss of 78 men while on her 2nd war patrol. She was transiting on the surface when she was rocked by a massive explosion (probably a mine) and sank in less than a minute. 8 men survived and made it to shore where friendly natives guided them to a Coast Watcher and they were evacuated by the USS Redfin 6 days later. Flier's wreckage has been located south of Palawan Island near the Philippines' Balabac Strait.
USS Harder (SS-257)	Lost on August 24, 1944 with the loss of 79 men while on her 6th war patrol near Bataan in the Philippines from a depth charge attack by a Japanese minesweeper
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.

September

	Lost on September 1, 1920 when a practice dive went wrong and she sank bow-first, with her stem showing above the water. In a dramatic adventure, her exhausted crew was rescued during the next few days through a hole cut in the hull in the tiller room. Salvage attempts were unsuccessful. S-5 settled to the bottom and was abandoned off the Delaware Capes, 40 miles offshore.	
USS Grayling (SS-209)	Lost on September 9, 1943 with the loss of 76 men while on her 8th war patrol near the Tablas Strait in the Philippines to unknown causes .	

USS Pompano (SS-181)	Lost on September 17, 1943 with the loss of 77 men while on her 7th war patrol off Honshu, sunk by enemy mine
USS Bonefish (SS-223)	Lost on June 18, 1945 with the loss of 85 men while on her 8th war patrol in Toyama Bay off the northern shores of Honshu, Japan. After sinking a passengercargoman, Bonefish was subjected to a savage depth charge attack.
USS S-51 (SS-162)	Lost on September 25, 1925 with the loss of 33 men when it was sunk after collision with SS City of Rome off Block Island, RI.
USS Cisco (SS-290)	Lost on September 28, 1943 with the loss of 76 men while on her 1st war patrol in the Sulu Sea, west of Mindinao in the Philippines, sunk by surface craft and aerial bombs

