COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello Shipmates,

This month's Calendar Boat was a one off developmental Boat. The USS Tullibee (SSN-597) was the Navy's response to a report emphasizing the need for deeper diving, quieter and better sonar capabilities. As such she was the first sub to have a bow-mounted sonar array, a quieter power plant and angled torpedo tubes amidships. Commissioned 9 November 1960, her speed is listed between 14-16 knots, so later designs improved on the recipe she pioneered. After 28 years of service Tullibee was decommissioned in 1988.

April was another busy month for Bonefish Base. Our participation in the Riverside Veteran's Parade was greatly enhanced by the participation of Bob Bell and Jack Herron joining us onboard a model of a submarine like the ones they both qualified on around 70 years ago. Our meeting the next week featured CDR William Lauper from King High. Bill is in charge of the NROTC program there. He regaled us with background on his naval career as well as his desire to start a new chapter of the Navy League in our area. I understand he also sparked some interest among our members for the Sea Perch program they started this year.

Then the Tuesday after many of us participated in the Rancho Remembers program. The Bonefish float was prominently displayed up near the stage and we once again had an uplifting and fun interaction with the students interviewing us.

Our Base meeting tomorrow will be our annual Memorial meeting. Our guests will include several family members as we honor our Bonefish members On Eternal Patrol with a Tolling Ceremony. Additionally we'll be recognizing a new Eagle Scout with a USSVI Certificate and possibly inducting a new Holland Club member.

Two weeks later (on June 6) we'll be supporting the High Desert Marines at their car show in Victorville from 0800-1200. You know which hat to wear, right?

Lastly, the June meeting will not be held in Redlands due to our participation that same day at a Veteran's Parade in Oceanside. Bob Bell had such a good time in Riverside that he signed on to ride the Float and possibly bring some more of his WWII shipmates as well. I hope he finds a bunch of them. It is a wonderful vision when we can display our WWII shipmates up there on a WWII Boat. We anticipate a large turnout from our sister Bases, as well as an SSN to complement our own SS-223. Come join us there-it will be a great time!

Sadly, since the last CCorner we have learned that Rita Kilpatrick went on Eternal Patrol March 22nd. Our hearts go out to Al and their family from our family.

Rumor has it that Frank McCoy is recovering from his latest surgery, so keep he and Pat in your thoughts and prayers as well.

Finally this month, another round of excerpts from the Evaluation Reports of various British Naval Officers;

"This officer Is of two minds; one is lost and the other is out looking for it."
" If he were any more stupid, he'd have to be watered twice a week."
" Got into the gene pool while the lifeguard wasn't looking."

Mind your bubble Folks.
Frank