

**BONEFISH BASE**  
**25MAR2023**  
**General Bonefish Base Meeting**  
**“Zacatecas Restaurant”**  
**“All Rise”**

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**Plan of the Day**

**Sunrise: 06244hrs**

**Sunset: 1906hrs**

**Sailing List: Gene Adams, Daryl Brock, William Hawkins, Izar Martinez, Everett Noyes, Chuck Orman, Tim Martz, Dan Rowland, Fred Treddy, Karl Waterman, Michael Williamson. Guests: Judy Treddy, Rita Hawkins**

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**1216hrs: Meeting called to order by Bonefish Commander Gene Adams**

- Introduction of members and guests
- **“The Pledge of Allegiance” All stood. Those covered “Hand Salute” those uncovered “Right Hand over Heart” *“I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands One Nation, under God, Indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for All”***
- **Our Creed:**  
*Our organization’s purpose is “To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while service 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 the 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 lifestyles we enjoy today.*

- **Reading of the Prayer: All Stood with heads down as Prayer was cited.**  
*Amen*
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**United States Submarines lost in the month of March:**

**F-4 (USS SKATE (SS23) Commissioned 21 AUG 1909 as the USS SKATE (SS23). The navy renamed SKATE as F-4 on 17 NOV 1911. She foundered due to seepage of sea water into the battery, and was lost on 25 MAR 1915 near Pearl Harbor with all hands. Her loss was the first United States commissioned submarine lost at sea. She was raised off the ocean floor on 29 AUG 1915 from 306 feet. The boat was turned to starboard almost upside down. Her remains were buried as a fill in a trench off the Submarine Base, Pearl Harbor.**

**22 souls lost.**

**H-1 (USS SEAWOLF (SS28) This boat was the first 'Holland' class submarines built. She was laid down on 22MAR1911 as the USS SEAWOLF (SS28). On 17NOV1911 she was renamed 'H-1' She was launched on 06MAY1913. The ship ran aground on a shoal off Santa Margarita Island on 12MAR1920. Four men, including the captain, lost their lives trying to reach shore. On 24MAR1920 she was pulled off the rocks but sank in only fifty feet of water forty-five minutes later.**

**4 souls lost.**

**USS GRAMPUS (SS207) The GRAMPUS was commissioned on 23 MAY 1940 and served in the Pacific Theater of World War II against the Japanese. She had six war patrols and was lost on the last one. She was only credited with one enemy ship she was in several campaigns against the Japanese navy. One of her primary duties was to drop off coast watchers on the islands around New Britain. It is still a mystery as to when and how she was lost. The Japanese claim that one of their sea plane pilots claim that a submarine was bombed and sank on 18 FEB 1943. They claim their bomb exploded right on the bridge of the submarine and that she sank. The sister ship to GRAMPUS, the GRAYBACK report seeing her on 04 MAR 1943 in her patrol area. With this and other factors it is believed she was lost by being depth charged by two Japanese destroyers on 05 MAR 1943 with no survivors.**

**71 souls lost.**

**USS KETE (SS369) The KETE was commissioned a little more then the end of World War II. She was utilized in the Pacific primarily as a weather picket ship and as an air flier rescue ship. She was accredited with three medium sized merchant ships sunk. Her loss is shrouded in mystery as so many submarines are. Though highly unlikely due to her positioning she could have hit a mine. It is more likely that KETE encountered one, two, or maybe all three Japanese submarines and been sunk. The Japanese after the war revealed that all three of the submarines were sunk by American destroyers before surfacing with their battle reports**

**87 souls lost.**

**USS PERCH (SS176) PERCH was commissioned 11 NOV 1936 out of Groton, Connecticut. Initially she was used in the Atlantic. She transferred to the Pacific fleet prior to the beginning of World War II. She was part of and witnessed the destruction and evacuation of Cavite shipyard. Her test depth of only 250 feet and**

only 10 hours at 5 knots handcuffed Perch. On 03 MAY 1942 she had been driven down by two enemy destroyers. After escaping the area and surfacing Perch ran into three Japanese cruisers and three destroyers that began firing on her. The boat was hit and her bridge was even hit. With holes in the boat the commander ordered her abandoned and scuttled. The entire crew was captured and spent the remainder of the war in a Japanese POW camp. Five of those captured died of disease and starvation. The remainder was released on VJ Day.

5 souls lost

USS TRIGGER (SS237) The TRIGGER was launched on 22 OCT 1941 from Mare Island Naval Shipyard. She had twelve war patrols in the Pacific. TRIGGER was tied with the SEAWOLF and the RASHER for confirmed kills in both number of ships and tonnage taken down. She received eleven 'Battle Stars' and three 'Presidential Unit Citations. Two Japanese warships, the CD33 and the CD59 depth charges and bombing by Japanese aircraft.

89 souls lost.

USS TRITON (SS201) (Named for the Greek God, Triton, God, the messenger of the Sea) was launched 15 AUG 40 from Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. She had six war patrols in the Pacific and became the first United States submarine to sink an enemy vessel with only her deck gun. She sank 16 Japanese ships for 64,600 tons Japanese and evaded their warships and planes many times. Her loss, as with many other submarines is still a mystery. It was rumored that an Australian plane found her and bombed her. That was later discounted and it was determined that her loss was due to enemy action.

74 souls lost.

USS TULLIBEE (SS284) TULLIBEE was launched on 11 NOV 1942 from Mare Island Naval Shipyard. The TULLIBEE is credited with three Japanese ships sank for 15,500 tons and three damaged for another 22,000 additional tons. While on her fourth war patrol on 26 MAR 1944 TULLIBEE was on an attack on three Japanese merchant ships and a destroyer. This was in stormy seas and she was using torpedoes while on the surface. She fired two torpedoes. One missed her target and the second was a circular run familiar that sank TULLIBEE. The only survivor was Gunner's Mate Clifford W. Kuykendall that was on the bridge at the time of the loss. He heard voices around him for the following ten minutes or so then they stopped. The following day he was picked up by the Japanese destroyer Wakatake. He was held as a POW until V-J Day.

80 souls lost.

- Bonefish Base Commander Gene Adams introduced February's 2023 Bonefish Base General Meeting minutes: Accepted
- Bonefish Base Commander Gene Adams introduced February to March treasures report: Accepted
- Binnacle List March 25, 2023

**Howard Hoyt  
Don Noyes  
Jan Noyes  
Brick Noyes  
Marty Noyes  
Bob Schive  
Lyn Schive  
Mike Williamson**

- **Old Business**

- 1. Bonefish Base was well represented at Martin Luther King High School ‘Remembers’ event. Gene Adams, Dan Rowland, and Daryl E. Brock brought what the submarine service is to these young Americans.**
- 2. Gene Adams spoke of the importance of the speakers we get for our meetings. He explained that a lot of the speakers we get lined up sometimes cancel or have to be rescheduled. It was furthered that sometimes we ourselves are the best speakers to our meetings. The Commander indicated that Michael Williamson will be speaking to the quorum this day.**
- 3. The USS BONEFISH BASE USSVI has been awarded the ‘Golden Anchor Award’. This award was possible due to the nomination that our own Michael Williamson submitted. In his nomination he complimented Bonefish Base in general but brought special attention to the dedication of three members in particular. Daryl Brock, Don Noyes and of course, Izar Martinez. The nomination will be introduced to be posted on the Bonefish Base website.**

- **New Business**

- 1. Daryl Brock indicates the proposed submarine memorial out at the National Cemetery in Riverside is still in limbo.**
- 2. The Submariner’s Birthday Ball will be held on 15APR23 in San Diego, California. Make your arrangements now.**
- 3. The Western Regional Roundup is scheduled for 27-29APR23. This event has short comings as to attendance. The event needs attendees to book not later than midnight on 27MAR23.**
- 4. The USSVI National Convention is scheduled for 28AUG-03SEP23**
- 5. The next Bonefish Base/Trieste Base meeting will be a pot-luck at Canyon Springs Country Club on 22APR23. We will be the guests of Bonefish Base Commander, Gene Adams. It is imperative that all drivers to the event forward to Gene Adams their drivers license**

number as well as the exact wording of their name on that CDL. You will be provided with a 'PIN' number to gain access to Canyon Lakes. Gene Adams will supply BBQ briquettes for those that wish to bring foods to BBQ. Gene will forward information as to who will be the food coordinator for the pot luck. This to prevent too many people bringing the same things.

- **Guest Speaker: Mike Williamson.** This presentation is dedicated to the United States Ship Submarine S-4 and to the seventeen souls lost but not identified one hundred and eight years ago today off the coast of Hawaii. Four of the twenty one crewmen lost aboard USS F-4 were recovered and identified were given to their next of kin for internment. The other seventeen, known at Arlington National Cemetery as the "SEVENTEEN UNKNOWN US SAILORS VICTIMS OF USS F-4 MARCH 15 1915. Mike Williamson furthered that the original headstone marking the 'SEVENTEEN UNKNOWN' has been replaced with a properly sized joint gravestone. The new headstone marks the resting place of the SEVENTEEN UNKNOWN in Arlington National Cemetery. The problem was a cemetery rule that all headstones being replaced had to be crushed at the rock crusher. Finally, that obscure rule had a way out. It was determined that the headstones could be transferred to another government facility. The old SEVENTEEN UNKNOWN headstone is now resting in the USS Bowfin Museum at Pearl Harbor. Mike Williamson gave an excellent presentation.
- **Good of the Order.**
  1. It was brought up by Tim Martz and discussed about how the VA uses the cheapest way to solve a veterans health issues before using the best way. The VA wouldn't change a medication even though it drove his sugar levels up.
  2. Gene Adams, Bonefish Base Commander, introduced the 'Honorary Submariner' certificate now available. He indicated that he will be sending one to Steve Garvey, former Dodger great and Grand Marshall from one of our parades. He indicated also that he would be sending one to Tim Conway Jr., son of late comedian that was also a Grand Marshall of one of our parades.

1315: Adjourn