

# **USSVI BONEFISH BASE**

(SS-223) and (SS-582)

**Inland Empire California**

**May 27, 2023**

## **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 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."

## **1200 Hours:**

At the sound of the klaxon, Commander Gene Adams convened the meeting of the Bonefish Base and read Our Creed. George Rioloa led members present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mike Williamson gave the opening prayer.

## **Tolling of the Boats:**

Fred Tredy reported the following boats that were lost during the month of May:

### **USS Lagarto (SS-371)**

Lagarto Lost on May 3, 1945 with the loss of 86 men near the Gulf of Siam. On her 2<sup>nd</sup> war patrol, she is believed to have been lost to a radar equipped minelayer. This minelayer was sunk by the USS Hawkbill (SS-366) two weeks later.

### **USS Scorpion (SSN-589)**

USS Scorpion (SS-589) was returning to Norfolk, VA from a Mediterranean deployment. On May 22, 1968 she reported her position to be about 50 miles south of the Azores. Scorpion was never heard from again. The exact cause of her loss has never been determined. Ninety nine officers and men were lost.

### **USS Squalus (SS-192)**

On May 23, 1939 USS Squalus suffered a catastrophic valve failure during a test dive off the Isle of Shoals. Partially flooded, the submarine sank to the bottom and came to rest keel down in 240 feet of water. Commander Charles Momsen and Navy divers on the USS Falcon (ASR-2) rescued 33 survivors using the diving bell he invented. Twenty six men drowned in the after compartments. Later Squalus

was raised and recommissioned as the USS Sailfish. In an ironic turn of fate, Sailfish sank the Japanese aircraft carrier carrying surviving crew members from Sculpin, which had located Squalus in 1939. Only one crew members survived after spending the rest of the war as a slave laborer in Japan.

**USS Stickleback (SS-415)**

Lost on May 28, 1958 when it sank off Hawaii while under tow after collision with USS Silverstein (DE-534) the entire crew was taken of prior to sinking.

**On Eternal Patrol:**

The following departed shipmates were remembered:

**Ronald L. Durling Sr.,**

Second Class fire control technician missile guidance systems,  
B: 24 September 1941,  
Q: 1961 USS Gudgeon SS/AGSS-567,  
D: 22 February 2009, age 67.  
Bonefish Base plank owner, Secretary

**Gary Lee Stewart,**

Chief interior communications electrician,  
B: 17 June 1947,  
Q: 1973 USS Wahoo SS-565,  
D: 31 January 2010, age 62.

**Paul Everett Perris,**

First Class radioman,  
B: 9 May 1950,  
Q: 1970 USS Bonefish SS-582,  
D: 7 February 2010, age 59.

**Jacques Abels,**

First Class yeoman; LT,  
B: 23 October 1917,  
Q: 1942 USS Thresher SS-200,  
D: 10 May 2011, age 93.

**William Lee Newman,**

First Class motor machinists mate,  
B: 15 February 1926,  
Q: 1944 USS R-13/SS-90,  
D: 11 June 2011, age 85.

**Howard A. Carle,**

Second Class engineman,  
B: 14 February 1938,  
Q: 1958 USS Pomfret SS-391,  
D: 5 July 2013, age 75.

Bonefish Base plank owner,

**John Meyer,**

Third Class electronics technician,

B: 3 June 1929,

Q: 1953 USS Remora SS-487

D: 16 November 2013, age 84

Bonefish Base plank owner, Junior Vice Commander, COB, Librarian

**La Dean Leroy Van Leeuwen,**

Second Class fire control technician,

B: 25 June 1937,

Q: 1957 USS Barracuda SSK-1/SST-3/SS-550/K-1,

D: 24 November 2013, age 76.

**George Otto O'Zanich,**

Second Class signalman,

B: 13 August 1924,

Q: 1945 USS Saury SS-189,

D: 6 December 2013, age 89.

**John Jay Raplee,**

Third Class electricians mate,

B: 22 September 1939,

Q: 1958 USS Catfish SS-339,

D: 5 June 2014, age 74.

**James Michael Hayes,**

Second Class electronics technician radar, Diver,

B: 19 June 1948,

Q: 1968 USS Carbonero SS-337,

D: 1 September 2015, age 67.

**Henry John Anderson,**

Chief fire control technician missile guidance systems,

B: 10 February 1939,

Q: 1962 USS Growler SSG-577,

D: 30 March 2017, age 78.

Bonefish Base plank owner, Senior Vice Commander

**Francis P. McCoy,**

Senior Chief sonar technician submarine,

B: 17 December 1938,

Q: 1960 USS Carp SS-338,

D: 14 October 2017, age 78.

**Charles R. Dunn,**

First Class machinery repairman,

B: 16 November 1926,  
Q: 1956 USS Queenfish SS-393  
D: 15 April 2018, age 91.

**David R. Sullivan,**  
Seaman yeoman,  
B: 4 April 1930  
Q: 1948 USS Caiman SS-323  
D: 21 December 2019, age 89.

David E. Clark,  
Chief radioman,  
B:  
Q: 1975 USS Patrick Henry SSBN-599  
D: 20 February 2020

**Columba Broome O’Gorman,**  
Second Class quartermaster  
B: 22 January 1924  
Q: 1945 USS Balao SS-285  
D: 16 March 2020, age 96.

**Dennis Fuqua,**  
Senior Chief quartermaster  
B: 1946  
Q: 1965 USS Bream SS-243  
D: 7 February 2021

**Joe Daniel Canchola,**  
Second Class torpedoman  
B: 23 March 1938  
Q: 1960 USS Volador SS-490  
D: 4 May 2022, age 84.

**Warren G. Branges,**  
Commander (ret.)  
B: 26 September 1947  
Q: 1972 USS Halibut SSN-587  
D: 24 May 2022, age 74.

"No submarine sailor is ever lost. The Commanding Officer who governs all our movements has only issued him a new set of orders and a transfer to new duties. Sooner or later his family, loved ones and shipmates will receive the same orders and all will serve together again."  
Commander Brock ordered the rendering of taps in honor of our departed shipmates.

**Minutes:**

Commander Adams informed members present that the Bonefish Base Meeting minutes of April 22, 2023 had been posted on the website. Hearing no concerns relative to additions, deletions, and/or corrections, Commander Adams declared the April 22, 2023 Bonefish Base Meeting minutes approved as printed.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

In the Absence of the Treasurer, a report was not provided.

**Binnacle List:**

Brick and Marti Noyes  
Don and Jan Noyes  
Mike Williamson  
Howard Hoyt

**Old Business:**

Commander Adams reported the continuing need to find a better storage location for our float.

**New Business:**

There was no new business conducted at this meeting.

**Program:**

Following the reading of all members on Eternal Patrol, a 22 minute video was shown providing a brief history of Bonefish Base through pictures that was created by Bob Schive.

**Good of the Order:**

No items of interest and or schedule of activities were presented during this portion of the meeting.

**Sailing List:**

<i>Members</i>		
Gene Adams	Dan Rowland	Fred Tredy
Daryl Brock	John Lucio	Michael Williamson
George Riolo		

**Adjournment:**

Commander Adams adjourned the meeting at 14:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daryl E. Brock  
COB

**Meeting Dates:**

The Bonefish Base (SS-223)/(SS-582) meets at 11:30 hours on the fourth Saturday of the month. Currently meetings are being held at The Zacatecas Café, 3767 Iowa Avenue, Riverside, California.