

BONEFISH BASE
28MAY2022
General Bonefish Base Meeting
“All Rise”

SUNRISE: 0542

Sunset: 1953

Plan of the Day (Minutes)
In Port
Zacatecas Café

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Sailing List: Gene Adams, Daryl Brock, Frank Campbell, Gerald L. Corneilson, Chuck Orman, William Hawkins, Everett Noyes, Rocky Rockers, Fred Tredy, Karl Waterman, John Lucio, George Riolo,
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1206hrs: Meeting called to order by Bonefish Base Commander Gene Adams.

- Attention on Deck. Hand Salute for The Pledge of Allegiance: **“I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands. One Nation Under God, for Liberty and Justice for all”**

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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.”

- Reading of the Prayer All stood, uncovered with head down
- Binnacle List: Jan Noyes and Mike Williams. Mike addressed the meeting about his medical situation. He has been fighting prostate and other related cancers for the last few years. He will be undergoing medical procedures Tuesday.

- Introduction of Members: All members present were asked to stand and introduce themselves, state their qualifying boat as well as how many 'Patrols' they made by Gene Adams, Bonefish Base Commander.

Old Business

- Previous Bonefish Base meeting minutes of 23APR2022 were introduced and put to a vote for acceptance. Accepted. (See bonefishbase.org)
- Treasurers Report was read and accepted. (See bonefishbase.org)
- The 'Western Region Round-up' held in Reno, Nevada was successful. There were over one hundred attendees.
- Gene Adams spoke of the 'Mission 22' program to the Base meeting. He emphasized that 22 veterans a day commit suicide a day. He pointed out that we need to take care of each other. If we see problems with a veteran don't ignore it. We may be their last chance.

New Business

- Our National Convention being held in Buffalo, New York is urging a projected head count of attendees.
- Gene Adams introduced Bonefish Base member John Michael Lucio to the members. John is running for Congressional District 41. In non political fashion John introduced himself. Knowing that Bonefish Base is looking into possibly sponsoring a 'Lost Submariners' Monument at Riverside National Cemetery John advised Bonefish Base that a new Veterans Cemetery will be being built at the Weir St exit off the 91 Freeway.
- The basic plans for the 'Lost Submariners' memorial at the Riverside National Cemetery was introduced to the base members. It was discussed and put to a vote to continue planning or to stop. The majority of the present Bonefish Base members voted to continue. One 'no' vote. **Carried.**
- The 4th of July Huntington Beach Parade was discussed. Bonefish will have their 'Float' drawn in the parade. It was brought up that before the problem with Covid the parade drew approximately 400,000 spectators. This could be a positive way Bonefish Base could be introduced to the public. Gene Adams will distribute specific information next week.

- Bonefish Base Commander Gene Adams introduced this Bonefish Base General Meeting to pay homage to members of Bonefish Base that have gone on Eternal Patrol.

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OARS UP

Ronald L. Durling Sr.,
Second Class Fire Control Technician Missile Guidance systems.
Born: 24SEP41
Qualified: 1961 aboard USS Gudgeon (SS/AG567)
Died: 22FEB2009 Age 67
Bonefish Base plank owner, Secretary

Gary Lee Stewart
Chief Interior Communications Electrician
Born: 17JUN47
Qualified 1973 aboard USS Wahoo (SS565)
Died: 31JAN2010 Age 62

Paul Everett Perris
First Class Radioman
Born 09MAY50
Qualified 1970 aboard USS Bonefish (SS582)
Died: 07FEB2010

Jacques Abels
First Class Yeoman/Lieutenant
Born: 23OCT1917
Qualified: 1942 aboard USS Thresher (SS200)
Died: 10MAY11 age 93

William Lee Newman
First Class Motor Machinists Mate
Born 15FEB26
Qualified: 1944 aboard USS R-13/SS90
Died: 11JUN11 age 85

Howard A. Carle
Second Class Engineman
Born: 14FEB38
Qualified: 1958 aboard USS Pomfret (SS391)
Died: 05JUL13 age 75
Bonefish Plank Owner

John Meyer
Third Class Electronics Technician

Born: 03JUN29
Qualified: 1953 aboard USS Remora (SS487)
Died: 16NOV13 age 84
Bonfish Base plank owner, Junior Vice Commander, Chief of the Boat, Librarian

La Dean Leroy Van Leeuwen
Second Class Fire Control Technician
Born: 25JUN37
Qualified: 1957 aboard USS Barracuda (SSK-1/SST-3/SS550/K-1)
Died: 24NOV13 age 76

George Otto O'Zanich
Second Class Signalman
Born: 13AUG24
Qualified: 1945 aboard USS SAURY (SS189)
Died: 6DEC13 age 89

John Ray Raplee
Third Class Electricians Mate
Born: 22SEP39
Qualified: 1958 aboard USS Catfish (SS339)
Died: 5JUN14 age 74

James Michael Hayes
Second Class Electronics Technician (Radar) (Diver)
Born: 19JUN48
Qualified: 1968 aboard USS Cabonero (SS337)
Died: 01SEP15 age 67

Henry John Anderson
Chief Fire Control Technician Missile Guidance Systems.
Born: 10FEB39
Qualified: 1962 aboard USS Growler (SSG557)
Died 30MAR17 age 78
Bonfish Base plank owner, Senior Vice Commander

Francis P. McCoy
Senior Chief Sonar Technician Submarine
Born 17DEC38
Qualified: 1960 aboard USS Carp (SS338)
Died: 14OCT17 age 78

Charles R. Dunn
First Class Machinery Repairman
Born: 16NOV26

Qualified: 1956 aboard USS Queenfish (SS393)
Died: 15APR18 age 91

David R. Sullivan
Seaman Yeoman
Born: 4APR30
Qualified: 1948 aboard USS Caiman (SS323)
Died: 21DEC19

David E. Clark
Chief Radioman
Born: Unknown
Qualified: 1975 aboard USS Patrick Henry (SSBN599)
Died: 20FEB20

Columba Broome O’Gorman
Second Class Quartermaster
Born: 1924
Qualified: 1945 aboard USS Balao (SS285)
Died: 16MAR20

Dennis Fuqua
Senior Chief Quartermaster
Born: 1946
Qualified 1965 aboard USS Bream (SS243)
Died: 07FEB21

Joe Daniel Canchola
Second Class Torpedoman
Born: 23MAR38
Qualified: 1960 aboard USS Volador (SS490)
Died: 04MAY22

Warren G. Branges
CDR (SS) ret.
Qualified: 1972 aboard USS Halibut (SSN-587)
Died: 24 MAY22

- **Tolling of the Boats**

United States Submarines lost in the Month of May

- USS SQUALUS (SS192) 26 Souls lost

USS SQUALUS (SS192) was commissioned 01MAR39 from Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Eighty four days later while on test dives off the coast of New Hampshire she sank to just above her test depth. Losing 26 of her 59 crew member Squalus had her remaining 33 crew members using the McCann Rescue Chamber. The boat was rescued late the same year.

In May of 1940 the boat was recommissioned as the USS Sailfish (SS192). She was sent to the Pacific where she served with distinction. She earned nine battle stars and a Presidential Unit Citation. She completed ten war patrols.

She was decommissioned 27OCT45 after the end of WWII. 26 Souls lost.

- USS LAGARTO (SS371) 88 Souls lost

Lagarto was commissioned on 14OCT44 out of Manitowoc, Wisconsin. She sat atop of a floating dry-dock down the Mississippi River to New Orleans to whereas she put to sea.

While on her way to Pearl Harbor Lagarto stopped off Perlas Island, Panama. This was for a period of training between 20NOV44 and 05DEC44. On the third of December, just two days prior to getting underway, Chief Pat Cole died of coronary thrombosis.

The boat reached Pearl Harbor on Christmas day '44.

Just prior for training to be completed a traffic accident caused a major disruption aboard the Lagarto. Two of her senior well seasoned officers were involved in a major traffic accident. This took the experience of 14 war patrols out of Lagarto's wardroom.

The Lagarto saw very little action for the remainder of the war. She did have a new commanding officer and executive officer. She operated with the submarine Haddock for the next several months.

It appears that the Lagarto got trapped and destroyed by the enemy minelayer, Hatsutaka in the Gulf of Siam on 04MAY45.

88

Souls lost.

- USS STRICKLEBACK (SS415) 0 Souls lost

The Stickleback was commissioned on 29MAR45 at Mare Island Naval Shipyard. She saw very little action in WWII. She arrived at her first and only war patrol destination two days prior to the cease fire.

Basically she was used as a training platform for the following 13 years.

She was training with American destroyers off the coast of Hawaii on 29MAY58 when she was hit by the destroyer USS Silverstein. Several destroyers helped the crew abandon the ship before she sank in 1,800 fathoms.

0 Souls lost.

- USS SCORPION (SSN589) 99 Souls lost. Lost 22MAY68.

The Scorpion was commissioned on 29JUL60 out of General Dynamics Electric Boat.

The loss of the USS Scorpion (SSN589) is by far the most mysterious loss in American history.

The American submarine force leans heavily toward believing that the Soviet Union caused her loss. The official doctrine of the United States Government basically supports ANY theory other than that.

There were four submarines lost worldwide in 1968 and the cold war was very close to HOT. Besides the Scorpion being lost the Israeli's lost INS Dakar, the French, Minerve, and the Soviet Union herself losing K129.

If in fact one of our nuclear submarines were lost to Soviet forces WWII might, no, likely would have broken out.

Other theories about Scorpion are an accidental explosion from one of her own torpedoes, possibly one of her torpedoes in the tube or on a skid in the ship activating and detonating upon reaching the 'distance' to detonate. This would normally be halted by turning the ship around because the torpedo is set not to come back and hit its home.

99 Souls lost

*** A Foot note:** Gene Adams, Bonefish Base Commander shared with our meeting that out of one of his Nuclear classes his dream sheet was for a fast attack off the east coast. A good friend of his of the same rank and grade asked for a fleet ballistic missile boat of the west coast. Gene got the 'Boomer' of the West Coast and his friend got the 'Attack' boat off the East Coast.

They, being the same rate and rank went in to get their orders changed with each other. They were told that it was too late.

Gene's friend went down with Scorpion, a fast attack off the east coast. A verbal thought Gene expressed as he was completing sharing this with us. He quietly said 'Maybe I could have saved the ship'. We all have our own ghosts.

1318hrs. Adjourn "First Call to the Noon Meal"