



USSVI Thresher Base News



March 2008

Holland Club Induction



P. W. Louthain, Eastern District Commander; Roger Miller; Carl Chase; George Horne; Tom Shannon, Marblehead Base and Eastern District Vice Commander; Gary Hildreth, Thresher Base Commander

On January 19, the base held its annual Holland Club Induction. This year Carl Chase, George Horne and Roger Miller reached the 50th anniversary of their qualification on submarines in 1958. EM3(SS) Carl Chase & EM3(SS) George Horne both qualified on the USS Calvalla (SS-244). George also served on the USS Albacore (AGSS-569). QMC(SS)

Roger Miller qualified on the USS Sabelfish (SS-303). Roger also served aboard USS Triton (SSN/SSRN-586) from 59' - 61', USS Bang (SS-385) in '62, USS Daniel Boone (SSBN-629) from '65 - '67, USS Dolphin (AGSS-555) from '70-'71, USS Haddock (SSN-621) from '72-'73, and Ulysses S Grant (SSBN-631) from '80-'85.

Thresher Base Member Receives USSVI Award

Kevin Galeaz, Thresher Base Vice Commander, Secretary, Webmaster, and Newsletter Editor, received the USSVI Meritorious Award First Runner Up. This Award is presented to the member, Base, or group that most exemplifies the Motto, "Pride Runs Deep," who by the efforts and involvement of a member group or Base in for example, local veterans affairs,



parades, school activities, presentations to Civic, legislative, veterans, patriotic and other organizations such as Library displays, Community Bulletin Boards, Schools, items that appear in print and/or electronic media, Press Releases, Public/Community Service Announcements etc, have promoted the concept of Honor, Duty, Pride Reputation history and lore of the US

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Anthony LaPlante Passes Away

Anthony C. LaPlante, 68, of York, Maine died unexpectedly Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2008, in York Hospital.

He was born Nov. 14, 1939, in York, son of Antonio and Beulah (Driscoll) (LaPlante) MacIntire. He graduated from York High School and served in the U.S. Navy submarine fleet. He worked for the York post office for 35 years before retiring. He enjoyed carpentry, cooking, his truck and tools, his Navy submarine service time and NASCAR. He was also an avid model railroader and enjoyed many years of karate. He leaves his wife of 42 years, Pauline (Loudon) LaPlante; a daughter, Carol E. Glidden of Salem, N.H.; a granddaughter, Kirsten Glidden; his mother; a



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Meritorious Award *(continued from page 1)*

Navy Submarine Force to the general public and community at large. The award winner is selected by the District Commanders.

On February 20, 2007, Larry Oiler and Gary Hildreth recommended Kevin Galeaz for this award. "Kevin exemplifies the motto 'Pride Runs Deep.' His involvement in local veterans' affairs, parades, school activities, etc. have promoted the concept of honor, duty and pride of the U.S. Navy Submarine Force." The letter of recommendation focused on the six major tasks that Kevin has taken on since joining the base. 1) Thresher Memorial Service - Kevin has taken the bases creed of remembering those lost on the USS Thresher to heart and he works hard to ensuring the outstanding success of the service. 2) Lobsterfest - When the Squalas Chapter could no longer host their annual event, Kevin volunteered to organize and coordinate the event.

3) Memorial Day Service at Albacore Park - He has not only attended the service, but he has also participated in the service by reading names of boats lost and playing weaths on different granite monuments. 4) Base Secretary - In 2003, he added this role to the many other roles that he had taken on. 5) Newsletter Editor - Under Kevin's watch, the newsletter has become a professional looking document with quality articles and features. 6) Webmaster - Kevin took the initiative to design, implement and maintain the base website. This has led to an improved public image and outreach. "Kevin's dedicated service and support to USSVI, Thresher base and his fellow submariners exemplifies the meaning of 'shipmate.'"

During the annual convention in Alaska in September 2007, the award recipients were announced. Kevin was awarded First Runner Up in

this prestigious award. PW Louthain accepted the award on his behalf and due to poor weather and previous commitments, PW Louthain would not be able to present Kevin with his award until the January 2008 Thresher Base meeting. PW stressed that there were only two people that were nominated for this award. This is a very strict award and it takes a lot to make it through the nominating process. He was honored to receive this award on behalf of Kevin. Gary Hildreth acknowledge all the hard work that Kevin does for the base and how much it is appreciated.

Kevin thanked PW for bringing up the award and told the membership that he deeply appreciates the opportunity to serve. "It has been an honor to serve all of you. Of all the community service I do, this is probably my favorite. The WWII guys are steel. You guys are quite a bunch and I am honored very much. It is because of you that I do this."

January Meeting Minutes

The January 2008 meeting was held at the VFW on Saturday, January 19. It was called to order followed by a prayer and pledge of allegiance. The Tolling of the Bell was conducted for boats lost in January and February followed by a sound off of all present. Special guests at the meeting were: PW Louthain, Eastern District Commander; Tom Shannon, Marblehead Base and Eastern District Vice Commander; and Dick Hillman and Bill Turner from the Milford, NH VFW.

Secretary's Report - The minutes from the November meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report - Our beginning balance is \$5,767.52 We had deposits of \$931.00 and expenses of \$700.00. Our current balance is \$5,998.52. Dennis thanked everyone who paid their dues

and he will be sending out postcards to those who have not paid. A report has been submitted to National. As of today 58 members have not paid.

Mike Geletka - Gary spoke with his wife the other day and she indicated that Mike was doing well. It was thought that he would attend today's meeting, but he did not. Gary will call to see how he is doing.

Bill Seaward - Gary received word that he was not feeling well and he will call to see how he is doing.

Swearing in of Officers - One of the reasons, PW Louthain attended this meeting was to swear in the new base

officers. This is the first official swearing in ceremony for Thresher Base.

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Kevin Galeaz, Junior Vice Commander and Secretary; Gary Hildreth, Commander; Tom Young, Senior Vice Commander; Dennis O'Keefe, Treasurer **Page 2**



To Perpetuate the Memory



Frank John Malinski was born on August 6, 1939, in Glen Ridge, N.J., the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Malinski, Jr. He attended parochial schools as a youth, and was awarded the Ad Altar Dei Medal, highest Catholic Shout honor, for his outstanding performance as an Eagle Scout.

Frank was an honor student at Fairfield Preparatory School in Fairfield, Conn., prior to entering the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass. In June 1961, Frank

was graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor of science degree from Holy

Cross.

During his junior and senior years at Holy Cross, he was listed in the Who's

Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Active in student government and other campus activities, he was a leader in the Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps and served as color guard commander and battalion commander.

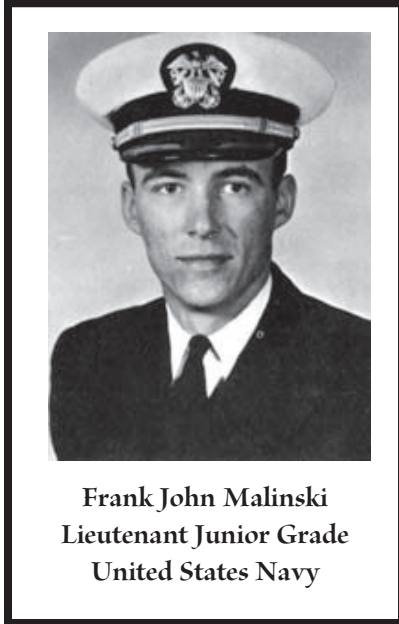
After graduation, Frank was commissioned an ensign, and volunteered for submarine duty. He entered the Submarine School at the U.S. Naval

Submarine Base, New London, Conn., in June 1961. Successfully completing

the course of instruction in December, he was selected for advance training in nuclear power. From December 1961, to January 1963, Frank underwent training in nuclear power at the Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Calif., and at the nuclear power training unit at Idaho Falls, Idaho. In early January 1963, Frank was assigned to his first submarine duty in the U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593).

Frank's interests included swimming, hiking, boating, bowling, golf, bridge and photography. He was a licensed radio "ham" operator, played the guitar, banjo, and piano. A sports car enthusiast, he was a member of the Sports Car Club of America. He was an active member of the Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his parents, Frank Malinski, Jr., of Tucson, Ariz., and Margareta Malinski of Stratford, Conn.



Frank John Malinski
Lieutenant Junior Grade
United States Navy

Richard William Jones was born on December 20, 1941, in Nashua, N.H., the son of Mr. and Mrs. William P. Jones. He spent his early boyhood in Milford, and attended local schools prior to enlisting in the naval service.

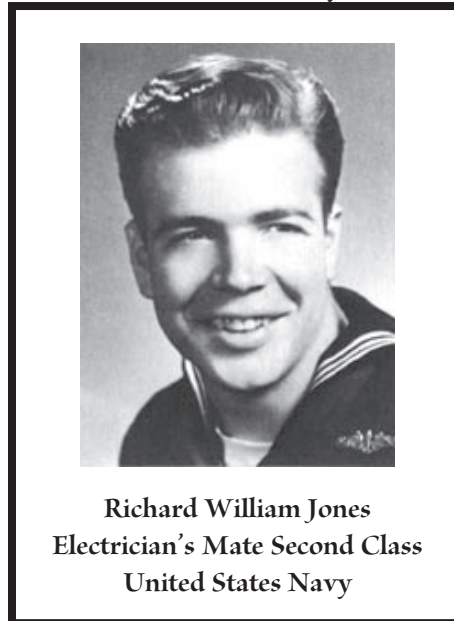
During his school years, Richard was active in Scouting, was a member of the cross-country and track team, and the brush fire squadron; and took part in the senior play. He was interested in antiques, and with his father, collected powder horns and flasks.

Richard enlisted on September 17, 1959, after graduating from high school, and received his basic training at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill. He attended the Navy's Electrician's Mate School prior to volunteering for submarine duty. Upon being accepted, he was enrolled in the

Submarine School at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Conn., and was graduated with the class of July 1960. He was then assigned to the submarine U.S.S. Diablo (SS 479), in which he became qualified as a submariner on August 17, 1961, and was awarded his silver dolphins. He was later selected for training in the nuclear power program, and successfully completed the year-long course at New London and Windsor Locks, Conn. On

February 4, 1963, Richard was assigned to the submarine U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593).

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William P. Jones; sister, Doris and Betty Jones, and Mrs. Edith Gauthier all of Milford, N.H. He also leaves two nephews, Mark and Carl Gauthier, and several aunts and uncles.



Richard William Jones
Electrician's Mate Second Class
United States Navy



January Minutes *(continued from page 2)*

USSVI Award Presentation- PW Louthian presented Kevin Galeaz with the USSVI Meritorious Award First Runner Up (see story on page 1)

Boat Sponsorships - The base sponsors the USS Hampton and Dennis O'Keefe sponsors the USS Augusta. Dennis O'Keefe has been sponsoring the boat for 10 years. Gary Hildreth presented Dennis with a certificate for his boat sponsorship.



Eagle Scout - The grandson of LCDR John Lyman achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and Gary Hildreth sent a letter of commendation to him. His project was aboard the USS Torsk where he organized a restoration project to bring it back up to speed.

USS New Hampshire - Tom Young spoke to the group about the USS New Hampshire Commissioning. He attended the recent Navy League meeting and the four Senators from Maine and New Hampshire have submitted letters to the Secretary of the Navy to push for the commissioning and the Skipper has indicated that he wants the commissioning to be in New Hampshire. It will take place in October or November 2008. PW Louthian suggests speaking with Admiral Heaney, Group 2, for his support in bringing the commissioning here. He is also a member of Subvets.

New Submarine Book - Tom Young has a copy of *The Baker Boys Going to Sea on*

a Submarine by Mary Cummings. This may be borrowed and he has information on purchasing copies.

Submarine Birthday Ball - The ball will be held on April 19th. Carl Weber has been selected as the WWII representative. Carl will write a bio for the program.

Thresher Memorial Service - Approval has been granted to hold the service at the R.W. Traip

Academy. The one outstanding issue is the insurance. Subclass is all set to name the next graduating class after the Thresher and they will come up and attend the service. The invitation will be a bit more formal this year because it is the 45th. Do not expect the large

crowd of 500 that attended the 40th, but still expect a large number.

The shipyard color guard will be used for the service. The USS Greenville's host community is Kittery and they will assist with the ceremony and refreshments. A budget for refreshments is being based on 300 attendees at \$3.00 per person, so a motion is made to spend \$1000 for refreshments. This was seconded and unanimously approved. PW suggested contacting local companies for donations and Lori Arsenaault has indicated that a local church group is willing to provide refreshments as well.

Guest speakers are being sought for the service. Rear Admiral McCoy is being asked to speak. Further discussion was had on who else to invite - Kevin suggested the Admiral in charge of ComSub 4 and Gary suggested Admiral Kenny. Both leads will be followed up on. Captain Mazzone, Shipyard Commander, will introduce speakers.

Received a letter from Keith Taylor, Royal Navy attended the service last year and he was friends with Commander Harvey. He suggests that we send an invitation to Commander Bennett, in Washington DC, because he has expressed an interest in attending the service.

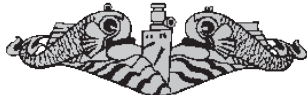


Service for Richard Jones - Dick Hillman (left) and Bill Turner (right), from the VFW in Milford, NH, gave a brief presentation on the Memorial Service being held at the VFW to honor Milford resident Richard Jones who was an Electrician's Mate Second Class aboard the Thresher. This service will be held on April 10 at 10 a.m. at the VFW in Milford. In their planning process they wanted to make sure that they coordinated with Thresher Base and the planning of our Memorial Service.

Biographies - Kevin Galeaz continues to request member biographies for the website and the newsletter.

50/50 - The raffle was won by Dan MacIssac.

A closing prayer was given and the meeting was adjourned followed by the Holland Club induction and Potluck Luncheon.



*United States Submarine
Veterans Incorporated
Thresher Base*

*cordially invites you
to the*

*45th Memorial Service
for USS Thresher
(SSN 593)*

Saturday, April 12, 2008

1:00 p.m.

*R. W. Traip Academy
12 Williams Avenue
Kittery, Maine*



*Refreshments will be served
following the service*



*RSVP
Kevin Galeaz
webmaster@thresherbase.org
or 603.268.0420*



Thresher Base Holland Club Members. Left to Right Front Row: astern Region District One Commander P.W. Louthain, Bob Bryant, Roger Miller, Carl Chase, George Horne, Eastern Region District One Vice Commander Tom Shannon & Thresher Base Commander Gary Hildreth. Second Row: Ralph Deviod, Herm Stolzenburg, Tom Young, Jack McNally. Third Row: Ed Storer, Bill Tebo, Carl Weber, Bob Flannery & Dan MacIsaac

College of Holy Cross to Hold Service for Thresher Crew Member

Kevin Galeaz was contacted by Bill Dempsey, Chairman of the Joseph T. O'Callahan NROTC Committee at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts. The committee honors Father O'Callahan who was a Holy Cross professor, Navy Chaplain and Medal of Honor recipient along with assisting the NROTC and honoring veterans from the Navy and Marine Corps who attended Holy Cross.

This year on April 26, they are honoring LTJG Frank Malinski, Holy Cross graduate, who was lost on the Thresher. Bill Dempsey was looking for help in contacting LTJG Malinski's family as well as others in the New England area who might be interested in our program. An invitation has been extended to all USSVI Thresher Base members to attend this ceremony. Mass will start at 1:00 with the service starting at 2:00. If you are interested in attending, contact Bill Dempsey at 1-413-734-1487 or 1-413-575-5829.

VFW Post 4368 to Hold Service for Thresher Crew Member

Kevin Galeaz was contacted by Dick Hillman, VFW Post 4368 Quartermaster and USSVI Subvet. VFW Post 4368 in Milford, NH, is planning a Memorial Service to honor Milford resident Richard Jones who was an Electrician's Mate Second Class aboard the Thresher. This service will be held on April 10 at 10 a.m. at the VFW in Milford. An invitation has been extended to all USSVI Thresher Base members to attend the ceremony. If you are interested in attending, contact Dick Hillman at 603-673-9817.

Anthony LaPlante
(continued from page 1)

brother, John LaPlante of New Hampshire; two sisters, Marie Martin and Phyllis Hilbig, both of Connecticut; nieces and nephews; and his family in England. Memorial contributions may be made to an Animal Rescue League of your choice.

THRESHER Base
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.
c/o Kevin Galeaz
1465 Hooksett Road #239
Hooksett, NH 03106

Next Thresher Base Meeting
Saturday, March 15, 2008 @ 1300
Portsmouth VFW • Deer Street, Portsmouth



USSVI Thresher Base

USSVI Thresher Base was chartered on 15 November 1989 in the memory of those 129 gallant men who at 9:17 AM on 10 April 1963 lost their lives in the performance of their duties aboard USS THRESHER (SSN 593).

Our mission 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 Government."

The base newsletter, *Thresher Base News*, and base website, www.thresherbase.org, are used to inform the membership and community about meeting happenings and upcoming events. Any member who has information to share with the membership is encouraged to submit articles to the editor for publishing. Send submissions to Kevin Galeaz, Editor, 1465 Hooksett Road #239, Hooksett, NH 03106 or webmaster@thresherbase.org.

USSVI Conventions

2008
Fort Worth, TX

2009
San Diego, CA

2010
Cincinnati, OH-
Covington, KY