



# USSVI Thresher Base News



March 2010

## Views of the USS Pampanito

by Peter Joy

This is great, especially for folks desiring to see the inside of a WWII submarine. Captions are excellent. Takes a bit of time to go through, but the "360 degree" aspect is AWE-SOME. Set the pointer in the frame, left click or right click, and as if you are standing in the compartment, look around you.

Diesel Submariners had to learn, stem to stern, all systems, learn how to operate in the event of an emergency 98% of the machinery on the submarine. Final walk through for earning the Dolphins, consisted of a blackened (lights out) and rig the compartment for an evelution, fire, flooding, escape- once through the 7 compartments, with 99% accuracy, one got qualified in submarines. Why the 2 or 1 % flux factor? Learning never stopped. Buy the time a sailor left the boat, 100% was well known.

Enjoy - not only the submarine, the other sites listed.

[http://www.nonplused.org/panos/uss\\_pampanito/index.html](http://www.nonplused.org/panos/uss_pampanito/index.html)

## Boats Lost in January and February

USS Scorpion (SS-278)  
USS Argonaut (SS-166)  
USS Swordfish (SS-193)  
USS S-36 (SS-141)  
USS S-26 (SS-131)  
USS Barbel (SS-316)  
USS Shark I (SS-174)  
USS Amberjack (SS-219)  
USS Grayback (SS-208)  
USS Trout (SS-202)

## January 2010 Minutes

The January meeting of Thresher Base was held at Newick's Restaurant in Dover on January 16. The meeting was called to order followed by a silent prayer and pledge of allegiance. The Tolling of the Bells was conducted for those boats lost in January and February. A silent prayer was said for those on eternal patrol.

A sound off of those present was conducted - There were 17 veterans and 7 spouses.

Secretary's Report - None

Treasurer's Report -

open balance	\$3958.32
deposits	-\$1125.66
payments	+\$1045.00
end balance	\$4038.98

Peter Joy made a \$50 donation to Albacore Park

USS Thresher Memorial Service -

- Service will be held on 4/10/10
- Traip Academy all set
- George Stevens will perform Taps
- Pat Boyle will be contacted regarding playing the bag pipes.
- A second invitation will be extended to Admiral Mooney, but it is unlikely

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## Upcoming Events

March 20 - 1200 - Meeting/Luncheon at Newick's Restaurant, Dover, NH

April 10 - 1300 - USS Thresher Memorial Service, Traip Academy. Details available at [www.thresherbase.org](http://www.thresherbase.org). RSVP to Kevin Galeaz, [thresherbase@comcast.net](mailto:thresherbase@comcast.net) or 603.232.6201

May 15 - 1200 - Meeting/Luncheon at Flaghill Winery, Lee, NH. Invitation and details to be forth coming.

## Capt. George William

### Kittredge on Eternal Patrol

Capt. George William Kittredge, U.S. Navy-retired, died unexpectedly at his home in South Thomaston, ME on February 23, 2010. George was born in Washington, D.C., on May 26, 1918. He was the son of Scott F. and Henriette Green Kittredge. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD, in 1940 with a degree in Electrical Engineering and a commission in the U.S. Navy.

Upon graduation, George was ordered to the USS Chicago, a heavy cruiser with a home port at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The Chicago participated in the Battles of the Coral Sea and Savo Island and covered the Marine landings at Guadalcanal. When the Chicago had its bow blown off in the teered for submarine duty. He made a total of seven submarine war patrols, two on the Sunfish (SS 281) and five on the Haddock (SS 231). During

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Meeting Minutes continued from page 1

he will be able to attend due to health issues.

• Al Ford, retired, senior civilian with NAVSEA has expressed an interest in speaking. He will be the first choice for speaker. A second choice will be Vice Admiral Emory.

• Gary Hildreth made a suggestion about moving the service to the new Thresher Room in Tirante Tavern. It can hold

180 and there is a new chair lift. The consensus of the group was to stick with Traip

Academy due to the facilities, ease of entry and access to the water.

• Gary will contact the COB, Chaplin and Base Commander.

• Rick Cecchetti will contact Al Ford. • Inviations will be printed and mailed as soon as possible.

• Tom Young will check with the commissary about donating water.

• Larry Oiler will make arrangements for the wreath.

• Kevin Galeaz will check on the tide charts to determine which bridge to use to throw the wreath.

50th Memorial Service -

- the next big event - need to look at fundraising opportunities:
- July Lobsterbake - ship's wheel raffle
- "Fish Bowl" in a prominent location at the upcoming service.
- 50/50 raffle and future donations will be earmarked for the service

• Lori Arsenault has been looking into setting up a trust for donations.

• Gary Hildreth suggested the CNO or Secretary of the Navy as the keynote speaker. He also suggested that we invite Vice Admiral McCoy to speak at the 49th.



Old Business -

• Peter Joy commented that lunch at Flag Hill Winery was great. "Hats off to the planners."

• Flag Hill has been offered for all of our meetings. It was

the donation was for, but he remembers that his initial reaction was positive. A mystery donation was passed based on Gary's word.

• The 50/50 Raffle was won by Bill Seaward and he donated the money to the 50th Memorial Service.

• Rick Ceccetti won the submarine book, because Gary Hildreth had already read it.

• The meeting was adjourned.



decided to hold the May and November meetings due to travel issues. Larry Oiler has offered transportation with advance notice to those who have travel issues.

New Business -

• The website continues to generate new contacts.

• Kevin Galeaz extended a thank you to Peter Joy's wife for donating the glass dolphin that was raffled off at the Flag Hill Winery luncheon.

• Holland Club induction will be in July at the Lobsterbake. The following members are eligible for induction: Donald Baker, Earl Chase, William Niland, Mike Remington and Irvin Searl.

• Gary received an email from Jon Carcioppolo about a donation opportunity. He can not remember what



Welcome New Members

- Glenn Appleton
- Carl Bonenfant
- Mark Franklin
- Mike Remington
- Thomas Stewart

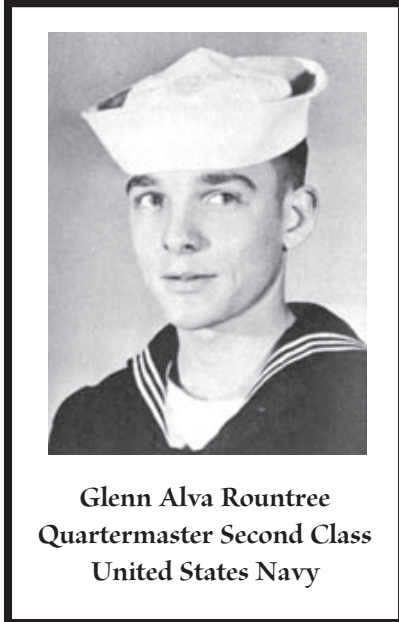
- Linda Stewart - Associate
- Mike Gigliotti - Associate



## To Perpetuate the Memory



Glenn Alva Rountree was born on October 23, 1938, in Jacksonville, Fla., the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney C. Rountree. He attended Ruth N. Upson School, John Gorrie Junior High School, and Robert E. Lee Senior High School. While in school, Glenn was a member of the school boy patrol and was active in several sports, particularly baseball. In addition, he was a Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and a member of the Riverside Park Methodist Church. his hobbies



included the building of the ship models and planes, and stamp collecting.

Glenn enlisted in the Navy in Jacksonville on October 23, 1955. After completing his basic training at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill., he served in the destroyer tender, U.S.S. Cascade (AD 16), until he volunteered for submarine duty. He was accepted for training and entered the submarine school at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Conn. After successfully completing the course of instruc-

tion he served in the submarines U.S.S. Clamagore (SS 343), U.S.S. Perch (SS 313) and the U.S.S. Charr (ss 328).

On February 27, 1961, Glenn was selected as a member of the crew of the nuclear-powered submarine U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593) and reported to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

In addition to his parents, Glenn is survived by his widow, Mrs. Francis Rose Rountree of Portsmouth, N.H.; and a daughter, Laura L., of Jacksonville, Fla. He also leaves a sister, Mrs. Margaret Rountree Smith and a grandmother, Mrs. J. M. Barley, both of Jacksonville, Fla.

Joseph Thomas Shimko was born on March 3, 1937, in Ladysmith, Wis., the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Shimko.

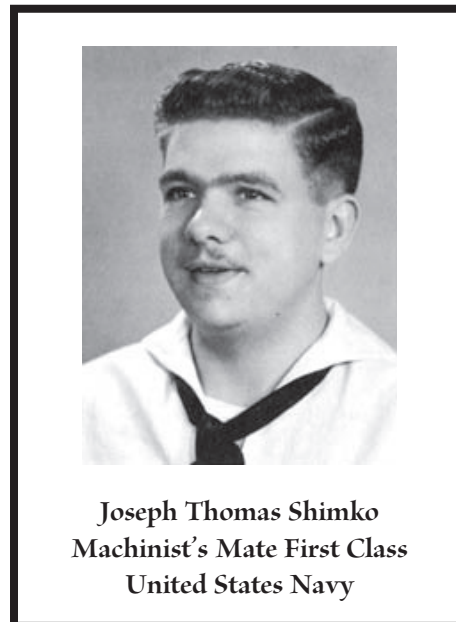
During his school years, Joseph was active in sports, and a member of both the football and wrestling teams. His hobby, at which he had a quite a talent, was repairing automobiles. After Graduating high school in June 1955, he enlisted in the Navy, and received his basic training at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.

His first sea-duty assignment was in the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Bonne Homme Richard (CVA 31). He later served in the nuclear-powered cruiser, U.S.S. Long Beach (CG(N) 9).

Joseph was a graduate of the Navy's Machinist's Mate School, the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration School and , the Nuclear Power School at Mare

Island, Calif. During his naval service, Joseph was awarded the Good Conduct Medal.

Volunteering for submarine duty, he entered the submarine school at New London, Conn., and upon graduating, underwent further training in nuclear power at the Nuclear Power Training Unit, Idaho Falls, Idaho. On November 6, 1962, Joseph reported to his first submarine, the U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593), for duty.



Joseph is survived by his widow, Helen Christine Shimko of New Market, Ala.; his father, Mr. Joseph T. Shimko of Exeland, Wis., and his mother, Leona Frances Brown of Ladysmith, Wis.



## USSVI 46th Anniversary Celebration & SubVets WWII Northeast Regional Convention

April 29, 2010 - May 1, 2010

Sponsor: USSVI Groton Base

For an event overview, select the following link:  
[Groton Base Anniversary Celebration Web Site](#)

For detailed event information and to register, select the following link:  
[Groton Base Anniversary Celebration Registration Form](#)

- 4/28/2010 4:00 PM SV WWII Early Bird Check-  
4-8 PM, Hospitality Room - Groton Inn & Suites
- 4/29/2010 7:00 AM SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT  
Scheduled rain or shine. 07:00 - 07:30 Sign in - Colors 08:00 AM Start 8:30 AM. Includes Greens Fees, Cart, and Prime Rib Awards Luncheon. Strictly Limited to 36 foursomes. Don't be shut out, get your reservation in as soon as possible. Names of players...
- 4/29/2010 11:30 AM Joint WWII/HOLLAND CLUB/SUBVETS Luncheon  
Lunch specials available, or you may order off the menu. No payment with registration required. Pay as you go. If planning on attending the luncheon please indicate on registration so head count can be determined.
- 4/29/2010 2:00 PM WWII Business Meeting(s)  
to be held at 2:00 PM at the Groton Inn & Suites.
- 4/30/2010 7:30 AM Return to Submarine School  
7:30 AM - Muster at Nautilus Museum. Includes a Basic Submarine School Graduation Ceremony, SUBSCHOOL tours including the new Escape Trainer, and lunch at the Base Galley. SUBSCHOOL Tour is limited to 150 participants. Early registration is highly recommended...
- 4/30/2010 6:00 PM Joint SV WWII/Anniv. Celebration Welcome Aboard Party  
6 pm Groton Inn & Suites
- 5/1/2010 8:15 AM Submarine Tour  
Strictly dependent on Base Security conditions and Submarine Availability. It can be cancelled without notice. To comply with security requirements only those participants registered by Thursday, April 22, 2010 will be allowed on the Sub School Tour ...
- 5/1/2010 9:30 AM SV WWII Shopping Tour  
Shopping trip to Mystic Village Departs Groton Inn & Suites 9:30 AM Departs Mystic 12:00 PM. (dependent on participation) Limit 50 people.
- 5/1/2010 1:00 PM Memorial Service/Tolling of the Boats  
USSV WWII National Submarine Memorial East 1:00 PM. Inclement Weather Location Groton Municipal Building - Meridian St. Groton. Guest Speaker to be determined.
- 5/1/2010 6:00 PM Anniversary Banquet Dinner Dance  
Port N' Starboard New London CT - Social Period/Cash Bar begins 6:00 PM. Dinner will follow with choice of entrees. The guest speaker will be the COMSUBFOR FORCM(SS) Jeff Garrison. There will also be dancing and music.
- 5/2/2010 9:00 AM Steak 'N Eggs Breakfast  
9:00 AM until Noon - SUBVETS Clubhouse - \$6.50 - No reservations required



**Capt. George William Kittredge** *continued from page 1*

those seven war patrols, 16 enemy ships were torpedoed. At the end of World War II, George commanded the submarine Grouper (SS 214). He was 26 years old at that time. George married the former Gayle Clark on his birthday, May 26, 1944, thus ensuring that he would never forget their anniversary.

In 1946, he was Admiral Byrd's navigator on Byrd's last expedition to the Antarctic. That was followed by a tour of duty as assistant naval attaché at the U.S. embassy in New Delhi, India. George returned to the United States to take command of the submarine Sterlet (SS 392) and then the fast attack submarine Trout (SS 566). Later, he would spend two and a half years in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He then returned to Pearl Harbor as the commander of the Fast Attack Submarine Division 11. George's last tour of duty was as senior military attaché at the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel. In 1962, Capt. Kittredge retired from the Navy. Subsequently, he was a member of the 102nd Maine Legislature and a trustee of the Maine Maritime

Academy.

In 1970, he founded Kittredge Industries to manufacture small submarines. He is generally recognized as the father of personal submersibles. Between 1970 and 1988, the company built and sold worldwide small submarines, the last one going to the University of Nagasaki in Japan. He then sold submarine plans to individuals for self-construction. His plans are still available at [psubs.org](http://psubs.org).

Capt. Kittredge was an excellent horseman and a good polo player. In 1950 in New Delhi, India, he played on the Argentine polo team that defeated the Indian Army Team 5-4 in overtime before a crowd of 100,000 people. He owned and rode horses until the time of his death. He was also a pilot. In recent years, he built and flew an amphibious ultra-light plane.

Capt. Kittredge's wife, Gayle Kittredge, predeceased him on March 19, 2000. Per George's request, there will be no funeral or service. His ashes will be interred in the Columbarium at the U.S. Naval Academy.

**Silent Service Motorcycle Club**

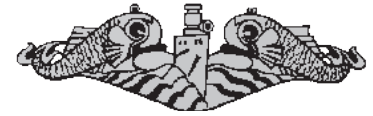
Tom Stewart, recently joined Thresher Base and he is looking for members who would be interested in joining the Silent Service Motorcycle Club, SSMC. This club was started when a group of Subvet riders in the Seattle area decided to form a Qualified Submarine Veterans only club.

The subvets had looked at several military clubs but they did not offer the uniqueness we all hold at being qualified in submarines. They wanted a club where Subvets and their friends

and families could ride together plus participate in local parades. They are also looking into forming a SSMC honor guard, when requested, as an

escort service for our fellow shipmates who have gone on eternal patrol. This club has the support of Patrick Householder, National Commander of USSVI.

An application form is located on the club's website at [www.silent servicemc.com](http://www.silent servicemc.com). Tom can be contacted at 603-279-1140 or 603-707-7445 if you have any questions.



*United States Submarine  
Veterans Incorporated  
Thresher Base*

*cordially invites you  
to the*

*47th Memorial Service  
for USS Thresher  
(SSN 593)*

*Saturday, April 10, 2010*

*1:00 p.m.*

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



*RSVP*

*Kevin Galeaz,  
thresherbase@comcast.net  
or 603.232.6201*

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

Next *Thresher Base Meeting*  
Saturday, March 20 @ 1200  
*Newick's Restaurant • 431 Dover Point Road • Dover, NH*



### 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](http://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 [thresherbase@comcast.net](mailto:thresherbase@comcast.net).

### USSVI *Conventions*

2010  
Cincinnati, OH-  
Covington, KY

2011  
Springfield, MO