



May 2007

District One Commander's Report

The calendar shows that it is May and one is left to ponder how one can slow the clock so that there is more time to enjoy friends family and life itself. One of the great pleasures of being the District Commander is to meet members throughout the district while attending meetings and events. As you know our District Meeting is fast approaching and I hope that Base Officers have set aside June 2, 2007 to attend the meeting. This should be a spouse friendly time where host Marblehead Base has planned activities after the meeting that we will share with our wivies. If Base Commanders have not received an invitation please contact Marblehead Base to ensure they have your correct contact information.

Eastern Region Director has clarified the process and schedule for the Election of District Commanders. The next election for District One will be prior to the 2008 District One meeting and the new District Commander will relieve during that meeting. It is not too early for Bases to begin taking a closer look at membership to identify good candidates for this rewarding position.

My time this month and next will be dominated by the USSVI Anniversary Weekend, the Eastern District One meeting, the Holland Club Indiction ceremony in Groton which will include members from Groton, Rhode Island, and Long Island Bases, and the Eastern Region Meeting.

Stay well shipmates and share your stories with your friends and family. PW Louthain, ED1 CDR
d1@subvetsgroton.org

44th USS Thresher Memorial Service

The 44th anniversary memorial service of the loss of the USS Thresher was held on April 14, 2007. This year's service was held in Kittery at the R.W. Traip Academy. The welcoming address was given by Captain Iverson, Commander, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. His welcoming statement was followed by remarks by Captain Gregory R. Thomas, PNS Operations Officer and Prospective Commanding Officer, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Commander Robert E. Cosgriff, CO, USS Hyman G. Rickover. It was then a pleasure to

listen to Lori Arsenault, daughter of ENCA(SS) Tilmon Arsenault, perform the Navy Hymn. This set the stage for the somber Tolling of the Bells for the 129 men who lost their lives on April 9, 1963. While Kevin Galeaz and Bill Tebo read the names and STSCM(SS) Jeff Rowe tolled the bell, the melodic sounds of a bagpipe, played by Patrick Boyle, could be heard in the distance. A poignant powerpoint slideshow of photos of the lost ran in unison with the reading of the names.

After Chaplin Steven Bartell's Benediction, the service continued down



at the waterfront. Chaplin Bartell led us in a prayer which was followed by



a gun salute from the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Rifle Team. While the wreath was being prepared, Mr. George Stevens, United States Submarine Veteran, played taps. Mrs. John Harvey, the wife of LT Commander Harvey, had the opportunity to release the wreath off the dock into the outgoing tide. Piper Boyle concluded the ceremony with the Navy Hymn.



Table of Contents

Thresher Memorial Service	1
D1 Commander's Report.....	1
Lobsterbake.....	3
To Perpetuate the Memory	4
Next Meeting.....	Back Page
March 2007 Meeting	Back Page
Base Chaplin Needed.....	Back Page



44th USS Thresher Service



Family Response

I would like to thank you all for the very nice service held at traip academy. Showing a picture of each man as his name was called was wonderful. I sure hope you do that from now on. I really liked the service at traip as it was easy to get in & out no stairs. The auditorium was bright & very well set up. Hope you have it there every year.



If there is any way I can assist you please let me know as I would be very happy to help. Again, thank you so much I will be telling all what a nice job.

It would be nice if this was put in the paper the day before so that anyone that is not on the mailing list would perhaps by word of mouth hear about the service.



Now that I found the web site I will be checking things out more often.

Sincerely,
Gale O'Loughlin
Widow of Dan A Philput



Combined WWII SubVets & Thresher Base Meeting & Lobster Fest

Saturday, July 21, 2007 @ 1200

American Legion Post #70

Raymond D. Walton Road

Seabrook, NH

Menu Options & Cost

Single lobster, steamed clams, chowder & corn on the cob for \$20 p/p.

- or -

Double lobsters, steamed clams, chowder & corn on the cob for \$25 p/p.

- or -

Steak with baked potato for \$20 p/p.

Invitation List

U.S. SUBVETS WWII, Associates, Wives and Guests.

USSVI SUBVETS, Wives and Guests.

Reservations

Reservations are required by July 13.

Mail check (USSVI Thresher Base) with menu selection to:

Kevin Galeaz

1465 Hooksett Road #239 • Hooksett, NH 03106

603.268.0420 • webmaster@thresherbase.org

Directions

Take Rt. 95 to NH Exit 1, Rt. 107 East. Proceed to Rt. 1, and turn right heading South. Continue to Traffic Circle completing 3/4 of the circle. Turn right onto Walton Rd. and proceed for ~ 1/2 mile. The Raymond D. Walton American Legion Post #70 is located on the left. If you need more directions call the American Legion at 603.474.8387



To Perpetuate the Memory



Robert Donald Biederman was born on August 27, 1930, in Hartford, Connecticut. While attending Weaver High School in Hartford, he was active in sports, including track, cross country, and basketball. After being graduated from high school in 1948, he entered the University of Connecticut, and in June 1950, he was accepted as a midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. He was graduated from the Academy with the class of June 1954, and commissioned as an ensign.

His first assignment as a naval officer was aboard the Newport-based



Robert Donald Biederman
Lieutenant
UNITED STATES NAVY

destroyer U.S.S. Hyman (DD 732).

After 3 years of sea duty, Robert was selected for postgraduate study at Webb Institute of Naval Architecture, Glen Cove, Long Island, N.Y. He successfully completed the course of study and was graduated with a master of science degree in naval architecture.

Robert volunteered for submarine duty and entered the Submarine School at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut. His first assignment in submarines, after completing the course of instruction, was in the U.S.S. Cavalla (SS 244). It was while serving in that command that Robert qualified as a submariner

and was awarded his gold dolphins; insignia of the submariner.

He reported to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in June 1962, where he studied in the Nuclear Power Submarine Familiarization Training Unit until December. In January 1963, Robert was assigned to the U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593), in his capacity as senior ships superintendent for non-nuclear work for the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

During his naval career, Robert had been awarded the Navy Occupation Service Medal with European Clasp and the National Defense Service Medal.

He is survived by his widow, the former Bettie Boehringer of Meridan, Connecticut; sons, Gregory, Bruce and Eric; and a daughter, Deborah. He also leaves his mother, Mrs. Dorothy S. Biederman; four brothers, and three sisters, all of Hartford, Connecticut.

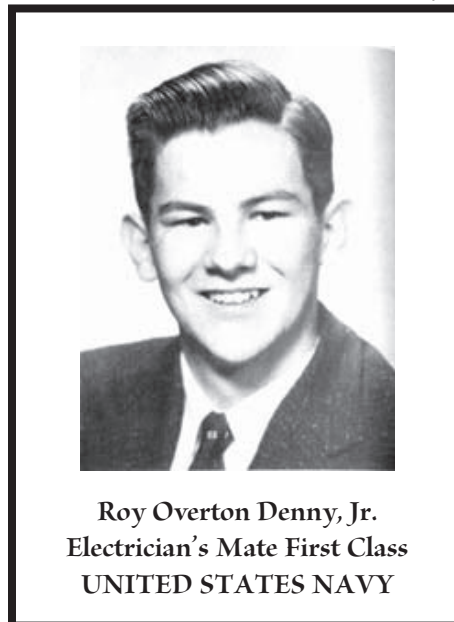
Roy Overton Denny, Jr., was born on February 8, 1939, in New York City. He attended schools there until his family moved to Groton, Conn., in November 1950. He was graduated from Robert E. Fitch High School, Groton, in June 1957.

Roy's career in the Navy and in submarines was apparent from an early age. His father, who died in 1956, served in submarines during a 28-year career in the Navy. Roy's interests were directly connected with ships and the sea; nautical books and ship models were his favorite hobbies.

After basic training at the Navy's Submarine School at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Conn., Roy enlisted in the regular Navy in October 1957.

His first submarine duty was in the U.S.S. Threadfin (SS 410), in which he became qualified as a submariner, and was awarded his silver dolphins. In November 1958, he attended the Navy's Electrician's Mate School and following graduation he was selected for advanced training in nuclear power. Roy successfully completed the course of training at New London, and at the special prototype training

unit at Windsor Locks, Conn. He was assigned to the U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593) on February 27, 1961.



Roy Overton Denny, Jr.
Electrician's Mate First Class
UNITED STATES NAVY

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Carol Denny, and a daughter, Teresa Anne. He also leaves his mother, Mrs. R. O. Denny, Sr.; a brother, Myles, and two sisters, Catherine and Elizabeth, all of Groton, Conn.

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

Next Thresher Base Meeting
Saturday, May 19, 2007 @ 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.

Base Chaplin Needed

The base president has sadly accepted the resignation of the base chaplin, Jack McNally. If anyone is interested in taking on this position, please contact Gary Hildreth, (207) 676-9649 or ghildret@maine.rr.com

March 2007 Meeting

Due to poor weather conditions, the March 2007 meeting was not held. Gary Hildreth was able to make it the VFW hall in case anyone showed up. Even though one person did show, there was no point in holding the meeting.