



USSVI Thresher Base News



September 2008

July 2008 Lobsterbake Minutes

The July meeting of Thresher Base was held at the Seabrook American Legion on July 19, 2008. The meeting was called to order followed by a prayer and pledge of allegiance. The Tolling of the Bells was conducted for those boats lost in July and August. A sound off of all those present was conducted. The Treasurer's Report was read by Dennis O'Keeffe.

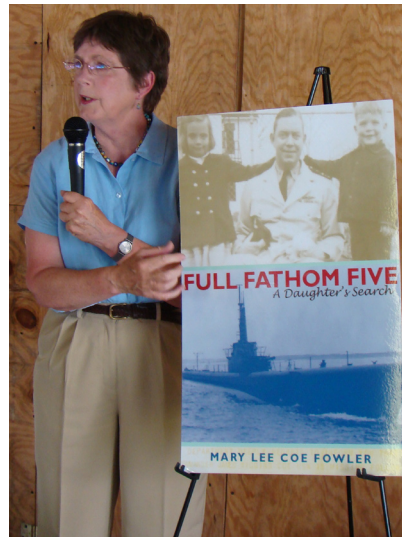
New Business -

- If you have lost your national membership card, you need to contact USSVI to have the card reissued for a small fee. Dennis O'Keeffe has 2008 stickers to attach to national cards.
- Dick Hillman, who is a member of Groton Base and will be joining Thresher Base, spoke to the members. He worked with Thresher Base in the spring when planning a memorial service for Richard Jones, USS Thresher, which was held at the VFW Post in Milford, NH. He thanked the base for the assistance in extended an invitation to those present to attend the VFW's annual Labor Day event.
- Tom Shannon, D1 Commander attended the meeting.
- Kevin Galeaz reminded members that USSVI online voting was currently underway. You can access the voting from the ussvi.org home page or you can find a ballot in American Submariner magazine. Tom Young indicates that only 5 people from the base had voted and encouraged members to vote.
- A Virginia Class model was donated by Larry Oiler for a special raffle. Tickets were sold for \$2 and Dennis O'Keeffe won the model.
- Albacore Park - repaving has taken place, attendance has been steady this



summer and members of the USS Greenville have been painting the ship.

- USS New Hampshire Commissioning is on track for October 25. Most commissionings have attendance of 6000, but the shipyard is limited to 3000. Tickets are slim and heavily controlled. Gary Hildreth is trying to get a special tour of the submarine for base members.
- Special presentation by Mary Lee Coe Fowler on her book, *Full Fathom*



Five, detailing her search for her father, Jim Coe, skipper USS Cisco, who was lost at sea November 1943.

- The meeting was adjourned, followed by the annual lobster bake lunch.

2008 USSVI Election Results

- National Commander - Pat Householder
- Sr. Vice Commander - Jon Jaques
- Jr. Vice Commander - T. Michael Bircumshaw
- Secretary - Alfred Singleman Jr.
- Treasurer - John Markiewicz



Table of Contents

July Meeting Minutes	1
2008 USSVI Election.....	1
Notes from the Treasurer.....	2
Treasurer's Report	2
USS New Hampshire	2
WWII Pacific Theater Stories	2
Saluting During the National Anthem.....	2
To Perpetuate the Memory	3
USSVI Conventions	Back Page
Next Meeting.....	Back Page



Note from the Treasurer

Dues are due on or before January 1st. Annual members dues are \$20.00 National and \$10.00 Base, total amount \$30.00. Holland Club and Life members dues are \$10.00 Base. Dues can be paid one year at a time or for longer terms if you wish. Please submit a check to the base treasurer: Dennis O'Keeffe, 1 Eureka Ave. York, ME 03909

Submarine New Hampshire Completes First Voyage

New Hampshire (SSN-778), the nations newest and most advanced nuclear-powered attack submarine, returned to the Electric Boat shipyard today following the successful completion of its first voyage in open seas, called alpha sea trials.

New Hampshires alpha sea trials included submerging for the first time, performing a range of submarine and propulsion-plant operations and conducting high-speed runs on the surface and underwater to demonstrate that the ships propulsion plant is fully mission-capable. New Hampshire will be delivered to the U.S. Navy by the end of summer.

"I'm privileged to have participated in the successful propulsion plant sea trial for a Virginia-class submarine, said Director of Naval Nuclear Propulsion Adm. Kirkland Donald, who directed the sea trials. New Hampshire, the fifth of the Virginia Class, performed satisfactorily in all operations and this success is a direct result of the hard work of both the crew and the shipbuilders. The Navy and the nation need submarines like New Hampshire and I am confident that she will support the missions for which she was designed."

Watching the crew and shipbuilders working as one to put this submarine through its paces was inspirational,

Treasurer's Report

for July 19, 2008

Balance as of May 17, 2008	\$5439.60
Deposits Received:	\$ 80.90
Monies Expended:	\$300.00
Balance as of July 19, 2008	\$5220.50

said Electric Boat President John P. Casey. It was a superb effort by everyone involved, and reflects the extraordinary commitment of the Navy/industry team to sustain the success of the Virginia-class Submarine Program.

Its significant to note that this team reduced the time span between christening and sea trials from 11 months on the first ship of the class to less than six weeks on New Hampshire, Cased added. Thats a remarkable achievement, and I deeply appreciate the contributions made by the Navy personnel, shipbuilders and suppliers who made it happen.

Also participating in the sea trials were Vice Adm. Paul Sullivan, commander, Naval Sea Systems Command; Rear Adm. Bruce Grooms, commander, Submarine Group Two; Rear Adm. William Hilarides, program executive officer Submarines; Capt. Christopher Pietras, supervisor of shipbuilding in Groton; Michael W. Toner, executive vice president Marine Systems, General Dynamics; John Holmader, Electric Boat vice president and Virginia-class program manager; and Becky Stewart, Northrop Grumman Newport News vice president submarine program. New Hampshire is commanded by Cmdr. Michael Stevens.

WWII Pacific Theater Stories Sought

We recently received an email from Alex Buder, associate producer at Story House Productions, a television and film documentary company based out of Washington, DC.

They are in pre-production of a new TV documentary series of American Submarines in the Pacific Theater during World War II and experiences of crew members to be shown on the History Channel. They produced the documentary on the USS Cole. Their website is www.storyhousepro.com

Mr. Buder is requesting stories from WWII Submariners to be sent by e-mail or by regular mail to:

Alex Buder
Associate Producer
Story House Productions
2233 Wisconsin Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20007
202-464-7260
buder@storyhousepro.com

Saluting During the National Anthem

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) reports that Senator James Inhofe (R-Okla.) will introduce legislation that gives veterans and active-duty personnel not in uniform the option of saluting the flag during the playing of the National Anthem. Senator Inhofe sponsored legislation last year (S. 1877) that permits veterans and servicemembers out of uniform to render a salute during hoisting, lowering, or passing of the flag. The provisions were eventually included in the FY 2008 Defense Authorization Act (enacted Jan. 28, 2008), but the legislation did not authorize a salute during the Star-Spangled Banner.



To Perpetuate the Memory



James Leonard Snider was born on July 22, 1939, in Clayton, N. Mex., son of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Snider. He spent his early boyhood on his parent's ranch where he became proficient in the operation of farm machinery. He worked as a heavy-duty equipment operator for 2 years prior to entering the naval service.

He attended Pajarito Elementary School in Albuquerque, and Belen

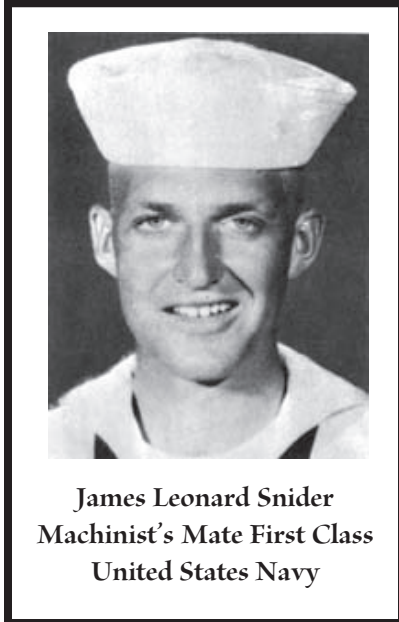
High School in Belen. His hobbies were hunting and fishing in the mountains of New Mexico.

Enlisting in the Navy on February 10, 1958, he received his basic training at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill., and upon completion, was selected to attend the Navy's Machinist's Mate School.

Following his graduation from that school, he was assigned to the destroyer tender U.S.S. Bryce Canyon (AD 36), until he was

selected for advance training in nuclear power. James was one of the first to enter nuclear power training specifically for duty in surface ships. However, he volunteered for submarine duty, and upon being accepted, he was ordered to the Submarine School located at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Conn. Successfully completing the course of instruction, he was assigned to the nuclear-powered submarine U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593) on March 19, 1963.

In addition to his parents, James is survived by his widow, Mrs. Phyllis A. Snider; two daughters, Michelle Marie and Sherry Ann; five brothers, Bud, Andrew, Ernest, John and Jerry; three sisters Mrs. Allen, Mrs. James Templeton, and Miss Christine Snider.



James Leonard Snider
Machinist's Mate First Class
United States Navy

Larry Wayne Freeman was born on September 27, 1939, in Des Moines, Iowa. He was graduated from Runnells Consolidated High School, Runnells, Iowa, in June 1959, near the top of his class.

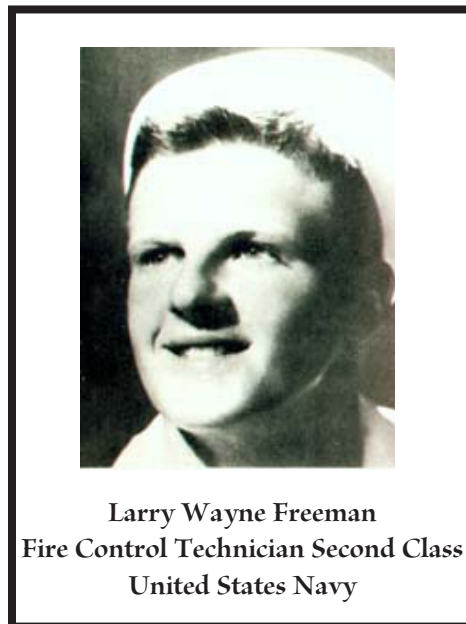
He served as senior class president and was selected to the Iowa all-State high school football team. Larry was also active in other school activities, including the school newspaper, the choral group, and participated in several of the school plays.

He enlisted in the Navy on July 6, 1959, and received his basic training at the U.S. Naval Training Center, San Diego, Calif. Larry volunteered for submarine duty and was enrolled in the Submarine School at the U.S. Naval

Submarine Base, New London, Conn. Successfully completing the course of instruction at the school, Larry was assigned to his first submarine, the U.S.S. Corporal (SS 346). While serving in the Corporal, Larry became qualified as a submariner, and was awarded his silver dolphins, on April 26, 1961.

On April 29, 1961, he received orders to the nuclear-powered

submarine U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593).



Larry Wayne Freeman
Fire Control Technician Second Class
United States Navy

Larry is survived by his widow, Mrs. Patricia Ann Freeman, and a daughter, Shannon Shaye. He also leaves his mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Carlson; brothers, William, Guy, Gerry, and Leon; and a sister, Helen, all of Des Moines.



2008 Lobsterbake



Above: Sarah Angers, Margaret Weber, Dave Cahill, Carl Weber & Bill Livendale



Above: Armand (Legs) Legare



Above: Luther Perkins & Ed Costa



Left: Bill Seaward, Gary Hildreth & Irvin Searl

Below: Audrey & Jack Gill, Elmer & Carol Flanagan



Right: George & Elsie Albert



Left: Bob & Mary Flannery, Shirley & Tom Young



Right: Gene & Lillian Guilbault, & Elise & Ed Costa



2008 Lobsterbake



Above Left: WWII SubVets Bill Tebo, Carl Weber, Dave Cahill, Dale Hill, Armand (Legs) Legare, Gene Guilbault, Luther Perkins, Ed Costa & Bll Seaward.

Above: Mary & Tom Shannon, Marblehead Base, Eastern District D1 Commander



Above: Irvin & Joyce Searl



Above: Diana & Jim Fucci



Above: Carl & Margaret Weber, Bill Tebo



Left: Joyce Wentzell, Gordon & Vicki Wentzell



Right: Bill Livendale, Green Mountain Base

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

**Next Thresher Base Meeting
Saturday, September 20, 2008 @ 1300
VFW • Deer Street • Portsmouth, 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, 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

**2009
San Diego, CA**

**2010
Cincinnati, OH-
Covington, KY**
