



USSVI Thresher Base News



July 2005

USS Thresher Memorial Service

The 42nd anniversary memorial service of the loss of the USS Thresher was held on April 9, 2005. The welcoming address was given by Captain Jonathan C. Iverson, Commander, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. His address



was followed by remarks by Commander Mark E. Davis, Commanding Officer, USS Montpelier. Then 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 Tom Young tolled the bell, the melodic sounds of a bagpipe, played by Patrick Boyle, could be heard in the distance.

After Reverend Michael M. Stephens' Benediction, the service continued down at the

Guests listen to the remarks of Captain Iverson and Commander Davis.

waterfront. Reverend Stephens 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, George Stevens, US Submarine Veteran, played taps. The family members of Portsmouth Shipyard employee Paul C. Currier were pleased to participate in the releasing of the wreath over the bridge railing into the outgoing tide. Piper Boyle concluded the ceremony with the Navy Hymn.

Reverend Michael M. Stephens leads guests in a prayer at the waterfront.



Above and Below: The family members of Portsmouth Shipyard employee Paul C. Currier.



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Commander's Message

Greetings,

Like many of you, I am looking forward to the Lobster Bake at our next meeting with our WWII shipmates. If you've never been, it's a meeting not to be missed. Even though around here we can have lobster anytime we want, it just seems to taste better when you're sharing sea stories with friends and shipmates. Like the hotdog at the ballpark or popcorn at the movies – there's none better.

The Memorial Day service at Albacore Park went as planned and the weather again cooperated with us this year. If you were unable to attend, then you probably haven't had the opportunity to view the improvements made at the Memorial Gardens. Our money was well spent, as the area is now visually opened up and welcomes Albacore Park visitors to wander over and view the Memorials. Also the overcrowding of expanding foliage has been tastefully pared back and the old fountain area has a fresh look with the addition of some new shrubs. Overall, the gardening improvements provide for a much nicer environment for our annual service and visiting guests. I received numerous compliments that day about the service, but similar to our Thresher Memorial Service, the efforts and contributions of many make these events happen and I am appreciative to all who help.

As I am sure you are aware, organizations like ours survive on the volunteer efforts by our members. I'm bringing this up because Thresher Base still needs a Storekeeper. I have been asking at all the meetings for over a year now for someone to take over this office. There is really not a lot involved with this position, and it would be nice to have available to our members the items that show off our pride as an organization. Think about it and if you would like to volunteer, please let me know. Have a safe summer and we'll see you at the next meeting.

Gary Hildreth

May Meeting Minutes

The May meeting of Thresher Base was held at the Portsmouth VFW on May 21, 2005. 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 May and June. A sound off of all those present was conducted. The minutes of March's meeting were read by Kevin Galeaz. Roy Pierce gave the treasurer's report. We have \$5009.54 in checking account.

Old Business –

- *Albacore Park* – renovations are complete and will be ready for Memorial Day. Thresher Base portion of the expenses is \$1200.

- Mike Geletka has finally submitted his bio.

New Business -

- Thresher Service was excellent. Appreciation was given to Kevin and Robin Galeaz for work done on the program.

- Memorial Day Service will be at Albacore Park with Commander Neibert as a speaker. All arrangements are made. It is on Monday, May 31 at 1000.

- Next meeting is the Lobster bake in at the American Legion in Seabrook on July 23 at 1200.

- Future Meetings - Looking into meetings being held in Manchester twice a year, March and September, to try and accommodate people who live

in other parts of the state. Carpooling could be an option. January, May and November meetings will stay in Portsmouth. July's meeting remains a joint meeting with Subvets WWII in Seabrook.

- Kevin apologized for his computer crash.

- Subvet WWII Auxillary has disbanded and their funds have been donated to Subvets WWII for lost boat plaques.

- Bob Bryant is just out of the hospital due to double pneumonia. Not feeling well enough to attend the meeting.

- Carl Weber showed examples of grave markers available for \$45 each. They have been donated to the families of Roy McCool and Gerald McLees.

- The 50/50 raffle was won by Bob Pomella.

- Meeting was adjourned.

New Member

Welcome aboard TMC(SS) John J. Kondrat, USN, Retired. John resides in Freedom, New Hampshire and joined USSVI and THRESHER Base Chapter on 20 April. He qualified in submarines in 1942 on USS PICUDA (SS 382) and retired from the Navy in 1961. John also served on USS BANG (SS 385), USS FLYING FISH (AGSS 229), USS HALFBEAK (SS 352) and USS TROUT (SS 566).

March Meeting Minutes

The March meeting of Thresher Base was held at the Portsmouth VFW on March 19, 2005. 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 March and April. A sound off of all those present was conducted. A special introduction was made for Randy Shoe who is the new Command Master Chief at the

Shipyard. The minutes of January's meeting were read by Kevin Galeaz. Roy Pierce gave the treasurer's report. We have \$5138.55 in checking and \$5516.41 in the money market account.

Old Business –

Albacore Park – due to harsh winter very little work was done. It is intended to be done by Memorial Day.

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Memorial Day at Albacore Park

Everyone who attended the Memorial Day Service at Albacore Park was treated to a beautiful day and a newly refurbished Memorial Garden. Opening remarks and introductions were done by Gary Hildreth. We were then honored with remarks by Eileen Foley,



Eileen Foley, Ambassador of Goodwill, City of Portsmouth;

Ambassador of Goodwill, City of Portsmouth; Evelyn Sirrell, Mayor of Portsmouth; and



Commander Donald J. Neubert Jr., Commanding Officer, USS Annapolis

Commander Donald J. Neubert Jr., Commanding Officer, USS Annapolis. These speakers were followed by the Tolling of the Bell conducted by David Cahill, President, Squalus Chapter; Kevin Galeaz, Thresher Base and Dick Dent, Bay State West Base. After the Tolling of the Bell, wreaths



Kevin Galeaz, Thresher Base, USSVI

were laid at the various submarine memorials in the garden. A number of family members were present to participate in this ceremony: Ms. Julianne Vogt, Daughter of Gerald McLees, Squalus crew member and Mr. Peter Charron, son of Robert Charron, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard employee on the USS Thresher. Following a



David Cahill, Squalus Chapter, US Subvets WWII

rifle salute by the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Rifle Details, services were closed with a Benediction by Reverend Michael M. Stephens.



Mr. Peter Charron, son of Robert Charron, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard employee on the USS Thresher

Promoting USSVI Membership

The USSVI is a unique group for many reasons:

- Its composite membership of civilians and active duty personnel benefits not only the members themselves but the United States Navy as well.
- It enables veterans, no longer on active duty, to maintain an active interest in the Navy and Submarines.
- It provides the younger men with the fellowship, active encouragement and moral support of older, more experienced submariners.
- It provides the Navy with a pool of staunch, knowledgeable supporters

interested in furthering the interests of the Navy in general and submarines in particular.

Since membership includes persons with first-hand knowledge of practically every phase of submarine development, the United States Submarine Veterans is an unsurpassed repository of submarine history and tradition. Its self-perpetuating nature ensures that this priceless heritage will be handed down intact through future generations of submariners.

Membership application to join SUBVETs – Thresher Base can be

obtained by contacting Larry Oiler, telephone (207) 656-5864, or by accessing the Thresher Base Web Site at <http://www.thresherbase.org/>. Only qualified submariners are eligible for regular membership, but our base has provisions for Associate Membership. We strongly encourage those that are not qualified submariners, but who are related to the Submarine Service by their deeds or actions (i.e., shipyard employees, support contractors, etc.), to join as an Associate Member.



March Minutes

(continued from page 2)

Holland Club – January induction went well. There are 2 more members eligible this year. Ed Store in September and Ralph Devoid requested to receive his at the National Convention in Kansas City. A thank you letter was received from Leo Cloutier.

Newsletter – It is being submitted to National for an award.

Biographies – The base is still looking for member bios.

New Items-

Orion Printing custom designs checks with submarine art. Information will be available in the next newsletter.

Holland Club – Members receive Lifetime membership to National. Should they get lifetime Thresher membership? This would require changes to the current bylaws. Current Holland Club members present at the meeting said they would rather pay dues and feel they are contributing to the base. It was decided that there was not enough interest in going through with this action.

D1 meeting will be April 28 to 30 in Groton. This will coincide with their anniversary party. Many activities are planned with some having deadlines in mid April.

The base received a Scholarship Certificate from National for the \$200 donated in memory of Bob Belislle, Dick Godbout and Keith McCall.

Kevin Galeaz received an email from Manning Harvey III. This is a new Thresher family member contact. He

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USSVI Scholarship Program 2005

The USSVI Scholarship Program for 2005 closed on 15 May. Updated information for the 2005 – 2006 school term should be available on or about 15 October.

Treasurer’s Report

(as of May 21, 2005)

Balance	5138.85
Paid Out	
Garrison Florist	100.00
Holland Club Mailing	30.16
Postage	37.00
USSVI Dues	195.00
Returned Check and fees	18.00
Credit	
50/50 Raffle	16.00
Bank Charge	8.00
Dues	385.00
Interest	.85
Ending Balance	5009.54

Camaraderie – Sea Stories

by Larry Oiler, Senior Vice Commander

The primary purpose of USSVI 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.” THRESHER Base members excel in this area.

However, a secondary purpose is to provide a way for all Submariners to gather for enjoyment, i.e., camaraderie. In my opinion, we don’t do well in this area. This is my primary reason for attending our meetings. Members routinely show up just as the meetings are starting and they are out the door as soon as they adjourn. There is a group of about 5 or 6 that stick around for an hour or so after the meetings to tell sea stories. You are invited to attend and I’ll buy the first round (beer, soda, bottled water, whatever).

Holland Club

Holland Club Certificates, Patches and Membership Cards have been received for Ralph Devoid and Ed Storer. Our Holland Club Coordinator (Larry Oiler) will contact these individuals to schedule an induction ceremony. Ralph and Ed have been added to list of THRESHER Base Holland Club Members located on the Internet at www.thresherbase.org

The Goody Locker

We are still looking for a volunteer for the position of Base Storekeeper. Larry Oiler has donated a lockable metal container that will be maintained at the Portsmouth VFW Post for storage of small store items. This box will be used to store on-hand items until they are sold. A list of items stored in the box that are available for purchase will be prepared and posted at each meeting.

USSVI Meritorious Award Nominations

Do you know of any THRESHER Base Member that you feel should be nominated for a USSVI Meritorious Award? This Award is presented to the Shipmate, Base, or group within our organization who most exemplifies the motto, “Pride Runs Deep,” who by his (their) efforts and involvement in local veterans affairs, parades, school activities etc. have promoted the concept of Honor, Duty, and Pride of US Navy Submarine Force to the general public. Any USSVI member can nominate any other member in good standing for this award. All you have to do is submit the name of your choice and a short evaluation to the District Commander. If you want help in preparing the submittal, contact our Senior Vice Commander (Larry Oiler).

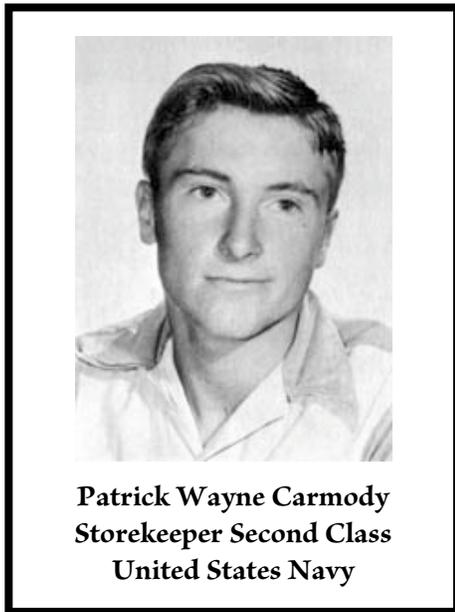


To Perpetuate the Memory



Patrick Wayne Carmody was born on November 16, 1938, in Madison, Wis., and spent his early boyhood in Wisconsin. After completing his early schooling, Patrick enlisted in the Navy on July 16, 1956.

He received his basic training at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes,



**Patrick Wayne Carmody
Storekeeper Second Class
United States Navy**

Ill., and after completing his course of instruction in October 1956, he attended the Navy's Storekeeper School. His first sea duty assignment was in the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Valley Forge (CVA 45), and later the U.S.S. Saratoga (CVA 60).

Patrick volunteered for submarine duty and upon

being accepted he was enrolled in the

Submarine School at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Conn. successfully completing the course, Patrick was assigned to the nuclear-powered submarine U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593) on February 18, 1963.

Patrick had earned the Navy's Good Conduct Medal during his naval service, and also served at the naval installations at Newport, R.I., and Clarksville, Tenn., prior to entering the Submarine Service.

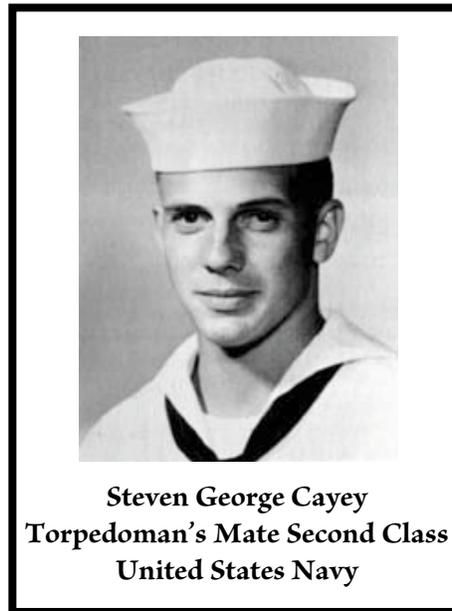
He is survived by his daughter, Vickie Ann Carmody of Jacksonville Beach, Fla., and his father, Mr. Edward Carmody of Toledo, Ohio.

Steven George Cayey was born on November 7, 1939, in Malone, N.Y., the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jay F. Cayey.

He attended elementary schools in Sugar Island, N.Y., and was graduated in 1957, from the Potsdam High School, Potsdam, N.Y. during his school years, Steven was active in school sports and had received his letter in track. His hobbies included hunting, fishing, camping, target shooting, and archery. He was also active in the 4-H club, and participated in many of their camping trips. He had worked as a counselor and woodcraft instructor, and had been selected to attend Camp Arnot, a forestry camp near Ithaca, N.Y.

Steven enlisted in the Navy in July 1957, and after completing his basic training, he volunteered for submarine

duty. He was enrolled in the Navy's Submarine School at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Conn., graduating in April 1958. He later attended the submarine school's torpedoman's course, and upon completing the course of instruction he was assigned to the U.S.S. Cavalla (SS 244). While serving in Cavalla, he



**Steven George Cayey
Torpedoman's Mate Second Class
United States Navy**

earned his silver dolphins; the insignia of the qualified submariner. He had also earned the Navy's Good Conduct Medal. In January 1963, Steven was assigned to the nuclear-powered submarine U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593).

He is survived by his widow, Donna L. Cayey; a daughter, Vicky Lynn; a sister, Diane; a brother, Neil, and his parents,

Mr. and Mrs. Jay F. Cayey of Potsdam, N.Y.



Member Profile

MICHAEL C. GELETKA ENC, USN (RET)



Born January 8, 1921 in Cleveland, Ohio. Joined the United States Navy February 1937. I completed my Naval Training at the Great Lakes Training Center in Illinois. After completion of Boot Training, I was transferred to the Battleship USS TENNESSEE (BB 43). I did make Seaman 2/c and received a pay increase from \$21.00 a month to \$36.00. After my tour of duty on the BB 43, I went to Submarine School in New London, Connecticut. After Submarine School, I was on my way to the Coco Solo, Canal Zone Submarine Base for duty on the USS S-45 (SS 156).

After six months on the S-45, I was qualified in November 1938. I then was transferred to New London, Connecticut for new construction at Electric Boat Company for the USS MACKEREL (SS 204). While on the USS MACKEREL, I made First and Second Class Machinists Mate. We were in the North Atlantic when WW II started, chasing German Submarines. We were fired on by the U-Boat and one torpedo traveled down our starboard side missing us by one foot. We fired back but missed her. She went East and we went South; no more contact after that.

I came back to the Submarine Base and I was transferred to the USS HARDER (SS 257) at Electric Boat Company for commissioning. I made all the Patrols on her and made CPO at the age of 23. Three things I won't



forget: 1) being caught in a minefield off the coast of Japan, 2) sinking 5 Destroyers off Tawi-Tawi and 3) the blowing up of a destroyer over our heads at 90 feet; what an awakening that was. We moved the Japanese Fleet out of that area 20 hours ahead of time. We rescued 6 Australian soldiers from North Borneo.

After that Patrol, I was transferred to Relief Crew 121 for duty. After R&R

I was to return to the USS HARDER but the USS HARDER never returned, as she was lost near the Philippine Islands in August of 1944. I stayed in the Relief Crew in charge of main power for submarine refits. I was transferred back to the States for new construction. COMSUBLANT sent me to the Boston Navy Yard for fitting out the USS PICKEREL (SS 254). WW II came to an end and we towed her to the Portsmouth Navy Yard, I never did put her in commission. I was transferred to the USS THRESHER (SS 200) for overhaul and getting her ready for the Bikini Atomic test. We didn't make it and she was replaced with another submarine.

I was then transferred to the USS SENNET (SS 408). Did the standard operation, except we did make a South Pole trip with Admiral Byrd in 1946 called OPERATION HIGH JUMP; we didn't receive the Antarctic Medal for this operation until 2004, some 58 years later. I swapped duty with another Chief on the USS CUTLASS (SS 478) that wanted to go back to the states. I wanted to stay in Panama. We made a trip around the Horn and thru the Magellan Straights.

Our Squadron was transferred out of Panama. I was then transferred to the Submarine School in New London.

While there, I ended up Chief in Charge of Damage Control School. Later I was in Squadron 2 as Chief in Charge of the Squadron Overhaul Shop. I was also attached to the SS 475 for pay purpose only. After that, I put the USS TROUT (SS 566) in commission at Electric Boat. After that tour of duty, I ended up on the USS GREENLING (SS 213) as the COB. I retired from the Navy August 1957.

I matriculated to Boston University and after getting my degree; I worked for General Motors for 3 years. I finally got fed up working with civilians and went to work for myself. I became a Snap-on-Tool Dealer for 20 years, and then I retired for the second time. I have kept busy ever since. I became the Memorabilia Director for the US Submarine Veterans WW II, busy with the local Masonic Lodge, traveling to Europe to attend the International Submarine Association Conventions. Traveled to Australia in 1995 to attend the 50th Anniversary of our being based there during WWII, to Hawaii for the 45th and 50th Anniversaries.

I made 8 Patrol Runs during the war. I received the following medals and ribbons: Combat Pin, Navy Presidential Unit Citation, Philippine Presidential Citation, Antarctic Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal (with 5 Bronze Stars), American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal (with Letter A), Europe-Africa-Middle East Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal (with 5 Stars), Philippine Liberation Medal, WWII Victory Medal, National Defense Medal, Combat Action Medal, and China Service Medal.

Combined WWII SubVets & Thresher Base Meeting & Lobster Fest

Saturday, July 23, 2005 @ 1200

American Legion Post #70

Raymond D. Walton Road

Seabrook, NH

Menu Options & Cost

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

- or -

Steak with baked potato for \$15 p/p.

Invitation List

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

All USSVI SUBVETS, Wives and Guests

Reservations

Reservations are required by July 18.

Mail check (US Subvets WWII) with menu selection to

Carl Weber

15 March St.

Nashua, NH 03060-5353

(603) 888-2675

cw320@worldnet.att.net

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.



Subvets WWII



The Squalus Chapter of Subvets World War II was chartered to perpetuate the memory of those shipmates who gave their lives in submarine warfare; to further promote and keep alive the spirit and unity that existed among United States Navy submarine crewmen during World War II; to promote sociability, general welfare and good fellowship among its members; and pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States government.

Meeting Minutes

At the Spring Meeting, Saturday, 23 April, 2005, "Wives of U.S. Submarine Veterans WWII", Squalus Memorial Chapter was dissolved by unanimous vote. \$942.31 from the treasury was passed on to the Men's Chapter for use toward purchasing 2 State Lost boat Plaques. Of course, wives and guests are always invited to the Men's meeting which will continue as always until we also find it necessary to disband.

At our last meeting a check for \$1200 (\$200 from Wives) was pre-

sented to Albacore Park for landscape renovations. The work is completed and enjoyed by all who attended the Memorial Day Services.

The National Convention at Lake Buena Vista, FL will be held at the Wyndham Palace Resort & Spa, Sept. 3 - 8, 2005. Before you make reservations join the "Wyndham by request" plan at no cost to you 1-800-347-7559, get your number and then make a reservation 1-800-WYNDHAM (996-3426).

2006 Submarine calendars will be available at the LOBSTERFEST which will be held on Saturday, 23 July 2005. See the back for details on LOBSTERFEST. Calendars are \$5.00 at the meeting. Add \$1.50 for mailing and handling if you can't be there.

We only have 13 regular members who are still paying annual dues. LIFE membership in National is only \$25 now. Otherwise you have to pay \$5.00 every year for the rest of your lives.

Officers

State Commander, Maine & New Hampshire - William Tebo

Deputy State Commander Maine
Real Cyr

Deputy State Commander New Hampshire - David Dickey

Chapter Officers

President - David Cahill

Vice-President - Michael Geletka

Secretary/Treasurer - Carl Weber

Chaplain - David Purinton

Auxiliary (Disbanded)

State Commander Maine & New Hampshire - Hope Finnegan

Chapter Officers

President - Jilane Seaward

Vice-President - Marge Weber

Treasurer - Hope Finnegan

Secretary - Phyllis Geletka

Chaplain - Theresa Cyr

Historian - Jennie Hill

Thresher Base March Meeting Minutes *(continued from page 4)*

is the nephew of LCDR John Harvey. He is unable to attend the Memorial Service, but requests that we send an invitation to his father, Manning Harvey II who lives in Hillsboro, NH.

Bill Seaward shared a Navy Submarine League Sub Review article on the Apache.

The next WWII meeting will be on April 23rd at Newicks.

The Sub ball will be on April 9th at 1800 at the Sheraton. This is being organized by the boats this year.

Discussion of many Shipyard visits that have taken place or will be taking place within the next few weeks. The shipyard has been awarded an OSHA safety award, it is only the 2nd DoD organization to receive this award and it is the 1st Navy organization to receive this award. The shipyard has come a long way and this is a big event since you are dealing with an environment that is inherently dangerous.

Thresher Memorial Service - This will be on April 9th at 1300. Notify

Gary if you are planning on attending.

Details of the service - Speakers:

Shipyard Commander, Boat Commander; Participants: Gary Hildreth

- MC, Kevin Galeaz and Bill Tebo

- Read names; Tom Young - Toll

bell; Lori Arsenault; Chaplin - El-

liot, Me; George Stevens - Taps; Pat

Boyle - Bagpipes; Shipyard rifle squad;

Location: Auditorium is the goal

- may have to use Chapel (125 only);

Wreath: \$100.00 - Herm will make

arrangements, Larry Oiler will pick

up. Program: Kevin Galeaz

Brief discussion was had regarding

what would happen to future memo-

rial services if the Shipyard was to

close down. The only thing that would

change would be location. Services will

be held regardless of whether the base

is open or closed.

USS Jimmy Carter program on CS-

PAN - Good Ceremony

Closing Prayer.

Meeting Adjourned.



Caring and Sharing Program

Annually we ask for donations to provide funds at Christmas time for the SUBPAC and SUBLANT Caring and Sharing programs. This money is needed and very much appreciated by the families of submariners from Guam to La Maddalena. It is our collective gift to those men and their families to whom we have passed the torch of our active brotherhood.

As has been the past two years, our national goal is to raise \$ 8,000.00 for the Brotherhood Fund to cover this need. Although the money is disbursed in December, now is the time

to start gathering the donations so we'll have the funds available come December.

This year, in appreciation of those members who go the 'extra mile' and donate \$25.00 or more, a special patch will be provided that they can wear on their vests to show they are proud supporters of our Brotherhood Fund.

If you gather the donations and send them in collectively as a base donation, be sure to also provide a listing of the shipmates who donated \$ 25.00 or more so that we can provide them with this special patch.

USS LARGATO (SS 371) Located

www.navsourc.org/archives/08/08371.htm

The Lagarto (SS-371) was found in late April 2005 in the Gulf of Siam by local wreck diver Jamie Macleod near it's reported last siting. She lies in 72 meters of water. The top of the conning tower is at 55 meters. There is no visible damage.

The Lagarto was found by comparing it's last known position against hundreds of fisherman's 'net snag' marks in the area of interest. 5 fisherman's marks in particular, were close to the sinking site. Normally it might take days or weeks of Sidescan sonar runs to locate a new wreck in this depth of water, but in an extraordinary stroke of good luck, the Lagarto appeared at

the closest of these fisherman's marks.

It is planned to revisit the Lagarto in July, this time to further document the vessel. Jamie has informed Roy Leonhardt that he is honored to lay a wreath or place a memorial plaque on the Lagarto on behalf of United States Submarine Veterans of World War II.

Jamie's first view of the Lagarto was of the bow area which appeared exactly as in the black and white image that remains as one of the few pieces of evidence documenting the Lagarto when still afloat.

The Japanese netlayer Hatsutaka sank the Lagarto (SS-371) on May 4, 1945.

History of the Submarine CD Available

If you have not asked for a copy of a 'Library Loan Copy' you can still order it. To receive a CD to copy or save to your hard drive, contact Art Randall by mail at 1693 Claymont Estates Court, Chesterfield, MO 63017-7725 or by e-mail at artrandall@aol.com

New Bases Formed

The Seadragon Base of Lady Lake Florida and the Jersey Shore Base in Jackson, NJ have become the 123rd and 124th USSVI bases.

German reporter seeking WWII Vets travelling to Germany

The following letter was sent to Senator Larry Craig, U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, from Nina Behlendorf, a German reporter, who is looking for help in contacting former U.S. servicemen from WWII who will be traveling to Germany. If you can provide any assistance, please contact her directly.

Dear Mr. Craig,

I am working for ZDF.reporter, a German documentary that can best be compared to BBC.reporters. By now I am working on a long documentary with the title "60 years after WW II". Therefore I try to find some US-veterans travelling to Germany within the next few months, visiting historic sights, meeting other veterans there. It is our aim to accompany a group of veterans in order to show how well veterans of different nations get along with each other but also to show the emotions of US-veterans visiting sights in Germany.

Could you perhaps be so kind and support my request? Perhaps you know any US-veterans travelling to Germany and could help us getting in contact with us? ZDF.reporter is a weekly magazine, seen by about 5 million viewers each Wednesday. Topics of ZDF.reporter are "heroes like you and me" but also topics that are politically or economically of importance. If you want to take a look at our website - this is reporter.zdf.de (without www). Please feel free to call or email when there are questions left!

Thanks a lot for your support in advance,
Best wishes from Germany
Nina Behlendorf

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

Next Thresher Base Meeting
Saturday, July 23, 2005 @ 1200
American Legion Post #70, Raymond Walton Road, Seabrook



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.

Upcoming USSVI Conventions

Here is a list of next five USSVI Conventions so you can start making plans to attend.

2005 - Kansas City
2006 - Little Rock
2007 - Alaska
2008 - Dallas
2009 - San Diego
