



USSVI Thresher Base News



March 2009

January Meeting Minutes

The January meeting of Thresher Base was held at Newick's Restaurant on January 17, 2009. 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 January and February. A sound off of all those present was conducted. The Secretary's Report was read by Kevin Galeaz. The Treasurer's Report was read by Dennis O'Keeffe. As of November 15, there was a balance of \$4099.99 with deposits of \$346.69 and expenditures of \$660.00 leaving a balance of \$3786.68. Deposits consisted of dues and donations while expenses were Christmas donations to various groups, national dues, and the Mike Geletka scholarship fund. The base ran a deficit in 2008 of \$1795.00. Dues are due now and postcards will be sent out on February 1 to those who are delinquent. Gary indicated that the deficit is primarily due to the 45th Thresher Memorial Service and we won't see that type of expenditure for another 4 years. Dennis considered contacting National and requesting a bailout.

Old Business - Peter Joy asked if elections were to be held at this meeting. Since everyone was the same, the board was voted in at the last meeting.

New Business -

- Peter Joy - Hats and Coverage for Veterans - We are now allowed to salute the flag whether you are covered or not covered.
- The 2010 USSVI Convention will be



held in Cincinnati. The 2009 Convention will be held in San Diego

- Gary brought up for discussion the idea of moving the Holland Club Induction to Newick's. Based on the high turnout it was suggested that the March meeting be held at Newick's. Carl Weber made a motion to hold the March meeting at Newick's. This was unanimously approved.

- Since the Holland Club Induction is now being held at Newick's, Gary brought the idea of paying for the inductees and possibly their spouses. The issue is in the upcoming years where there is a potential for 8 inductees and their spouses, but historically not everyone has attended the ceremony. For example, this year there are five inductees, but only Dennis O'Keeffe was able to attend. This idea was put to the floor for discussion. Bill Seaward asked if this was retroactive to all previous Holland Club inductees. Dennis brought up his concerns about fairness to people who are already Holland Club members and the potential expenditures the would be

incurred. He does not feel that this is not the time to set this precedent. Bill Tebo hates to agree with Dennis, but



he does feel the same way. Gary senses that there are some for and some against and says lets put this to a vote. No one was willing to make a motion, so the issue was put to rest.

continued on page 2

March 2009 Meeting

The January meeting was such a success that the March 21, 2009 meeting will be held at Newick's Restaurant in Dover, NH. The meeting will start at 12:00 followed by an optional lunch that can be self-ordered off the menu. All USSVI SubVets, SubVets WWII, spouses, family members & guests are invited.



Table of Contents

January Meeting Minutes	1
March 2009 Meeting.....	1
USS Thresher Memorial Service Invitation.....	2
To Perpetuate the Memory	3
January Meeting and Holland Club Induction Photos	4-5
USSVI Conventions	Back Page
Next Meeting.....	Back Page



January Minutes *(from pg 1)*

• Peter Joy suggested coming up with a radius of 30 miles of Portsmouth to find other restaurants after the March meeting. He is willing to look into other restaurants. Kevin Galeaz stated that the November meeting will be held at the Flag Hill Winery in Lee which is owed by Thresher Base member Frank Reinhold Jr. Since the July meeting will be held at the Seabrook Legion, we would be looking for locations for the May and September meetings.

• Kevin Galeaz received a call from Larry Oiler regarding the Holland Club inductees attendance and wondered if we should bring up the discussion again of holding the ceremony at the lobsterbake in July. Moving this to July would fit better with National's time frame. Gary thinks this is a great idea with the only issue potentially being the timing of holding the meeting and rushing to finish in order to eat. It was brought up that we are not held to a specific time - we can tell them when we want to eat and have them work around our schedule. A motion was made and unanimously approved to hold the future Holland Club Ceremony at the July Lobsterbake with the meeting to start at 12:00 and the meal to start around 1:30. The 2009 inductees who were unable to make this meeting will be contacted to see if they could attend the Lobsterbake where a second ceremony could be held.

• Bill Seward found out at the Propeller Club/Navy League Meeting, that the NR1 is being decommissioned at the Shipyard. He brought up that the NR1 is the only submarine to have wheels and won-

dered what the chances were of getting the wheels for the museum. It is a good idea to have them and some room would need to be made for them somewhere, maybe even Albacore Park. Everything that is taken off the ship goes to the National Archives and then requests are made for the parts. Bill Tebo will pursue this with Jim Dalton.

• Tom Young has information about a committee called the Task for Future Military Health Care which is looking at cutting TriCare. Get in touch with your congressmen and tell them to vote against this bill. Gary talks about the lobbying benefit of going various veterans organizations.

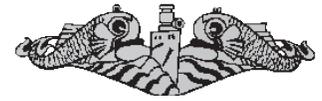
Meeting adjourned.

50/50 raffle was won by Ed Storer who donated his \$28 back to the base.



November Minutes

Minutes for the November 2008 meeting will be available on line.



*United States Submarine
Veterans Incorporated
Thresher Base*

*cordially invites you
to the*

*46th Memorial Service
for USS Thresher
(SSN 593)*

Saturday, April 18, 2009

1:00 p.m.

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



RSVP

*Kevin Galeaz
thresherbase@comcast.net
or 603.715.1093*



To Perpetuate the Memory



Donald Edward Wise was born on November 11, 1931, in Somerville, Mass., the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dexter L. Wise. He attended public schools in Massachusetts prior to entering the naval service in December 1948, at age 17.

He received his basic training at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill., and was later assigned to the heavy cruiser U.S.S. Salem (CA 139). Between tours of duty ashore at the naval installations at Norfolk, Va.; Argentia, Newfoundland; and New London, Conn., he subsequently served in the fleet oiler,

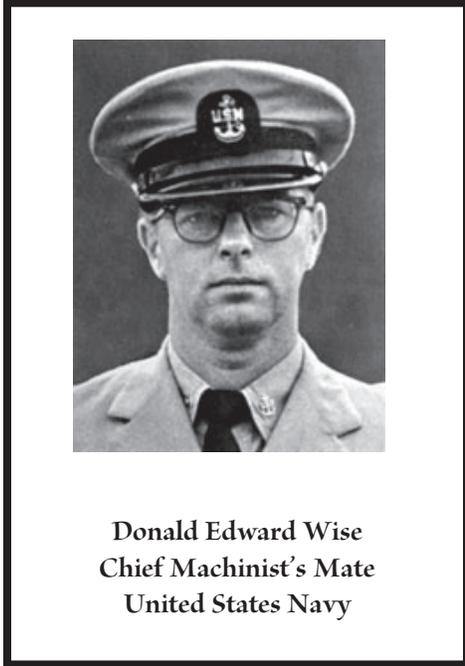
U.S.S. Salamonie (AO 26), and the ammunition ship, U.S.S. Surbachi (AE 21).

Donald then volunteered for submarine duty and was accepted for training at the Submarine School located at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Conn. He was graduated on April 10, 1957. He was assigned to the U.S.S. Hardhead (SS 365), in which he became qualified as a submariner and was awarded

nuclear power and attended the schools at New London, and West Milton, N.Y. He successfully completed the course of instruction and on February 27, 1961, he was assigned to the nuclear powered submarine U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593).

During his naval service Donald had earned the Navy's Good Conduct Medal (four awards); National Defense Service Medal, Navy Occupations Medal with European Clasp, and the Navy Commendation Medal.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Virginia R. Wise of Arlington, Mass.; five children, Donald, Jr., Patit Anne, Nancy Ellen, John Arthru, and Phillip Alan. He also leaves his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dexter L. Wise; four brothers, Richard P., James O, William, and D. Robert Wise, now on active duty with the U.S. Navy; and a sister, Mrs. Margaret Perry of Wilmington, Mass.



Donald Edward Wise
Chief Machinist's Mate
United States Navy

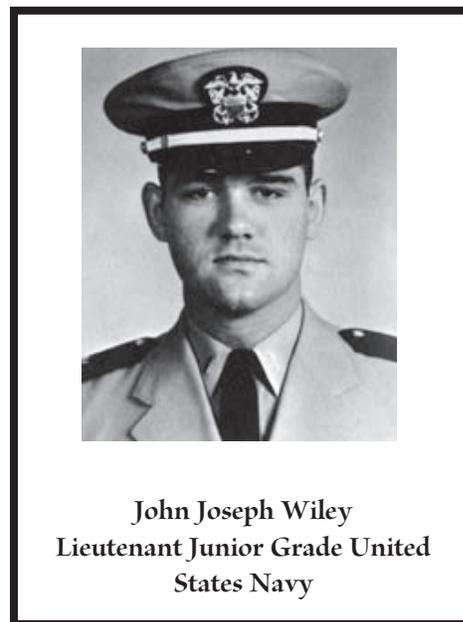
his silver dolphins on April 24, 1958. He was selected for advance training in

John Joseph Wiley was born on May 8, 1939, in Altoona, Pennsylvania, the second of six children. John attended parochial schools in Altoona, and was graduated from Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, with honors. During his school years, John was active as a member of the boys choir, a Boy Scout and served as an altar boy. He was the recipient of the American Legion Award and the Forensic Gold Medal. He was president of his class during his senior year. John was also a member of the National Honor Society and was responsible for establishing several records while a member of both the football and basketball teams.

In June 1957, John entered the U.S. Naval Academy as a midshipman, and was graduated with distinction as an ensign in 1961. During his years at the

Naval Academy, John was an honor student, a member of the brigade staff, and a brigade adjutant. Upon graduation he was awarded the Society of Sponsors of the United States Navy Shiphandling Award.

He volunteered for submarine duty after commissioning and was enrolled at the U.S. Naval Submarine School at New London, Connecticut, for training. Upon graduation, he was se-



John Joseph Wiley
Lieutenant Junior Grade United
States Navy

lected for advance training, and attended the Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit, Schenectady, New York. He reported to his first submarine, U.S.S. Thresher, in December 1962.

He is survived by his widow, the former Patricia Ann Parks of Altoona, Pennsylvania, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Chester

Wiley, also of Altoona.



January Meeting





Holland Club Induction



Gary Hildreth presents Dennis O'Keeffe with his Holland Club Certificate on January 15, 2009



Holland Club members who were able to attend the January 15, 2009 Ceremony.

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

**Next Thresher Base Meeting
Saturday, March 21, 2009 @ 1200
Newick's Restaurant • 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 of

America and its Constitution."

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**
