



May 2024

INSIDE**May Lost Boats**

Submarines and sailors
on eternal patrol

**Commander's
Corner**

A message from Boise
Base Commander Gary

Next Meeting

May 18th at 1100
Meridian Senior Center,
Dogwood Room

**Submarine Class
History**

This month B class boats

Upcoming Events

Find great events to
attend or help with

Boise Base Boosters

Thanks for your support!

**Boise Base Eternal
Patrol**

Sailors, rest your oars

Our Creed: To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of duties while serving their country that their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice may be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments, and to pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

Boats lost in May

[USS Lagarto](#) [SS-371](#) [05/04/1943](#)

The USS Lagarto (SS-371) was lost May 4th, 1943 due to being sunk by the Japanese minelayer Hatsutaka during an attack on a convoy. 86 men remain on eternal patrol, including Motor Machinist's Mate 2nd class Max Merrell Wicklander born in Buhl, Idaho. The wreck of the Lagarto was located in 2005.

[USS Scorpion](#) [SSN-589](#) [05/22/1968](#)

The USS Scorpion (SSN-589) was lost while in transit from the Azores to her home port of Norfolk, Va. Several boards of inquiry have been unable to conclusively determine the cause of the Scorpion's loss.

[USS Squalus](#) [SS-192](#) [05/23/1939](#)

The USS Squalus (SS-192) was lost on May 23rd, 1939, due to an induction valve failure during a test dive following an overhaul. 26 crewmen died due to flooding, including Electrician Mate 2nd class Robert Lyle Coffey from Culdesac, Idaho and Fireman 2nd class Robert Ross Weld from Kooskia, ID. 33 men were rescued using a McCann Rescue Chamber under the direction of Lt Cdr "Swede" Momsen. The Squalus was re-commissioned as the USS Sailfish and completed 12 patrols during the war.

[USS Stickleback](#) [SS-415](#) [05/28/1958](#)

The USS Stickleback (SS-415) was sunk during a training exercise after being struck by the USS Silverstein, a destroyer escort. All crew were safely rescued before she sank after damage control efforts failed to stop the flooding.

Gentlemen, rest your oars, we have the watch.

Lost Idaho Submariners

Max Merrell Wicklander

Motor Machinist's Mate 2nd class Max Wicklander lost with the sinking of the USS Lagarto, he was born in Buhl, Id.



Robert Ross Weld

Fireman 2nd class Robert Weld, from Kooskia, Id was lost with the sinking of the USS Squalus.



Robert Lyle Coffey

Electrician's Mate 2nd class Robert Coffey, from Culdesac, Id, was lost with the sinking of the USS Squalus



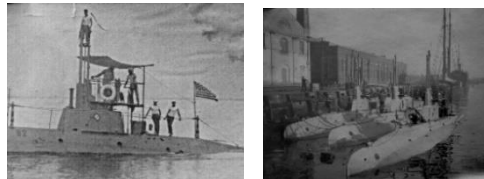
B (Viper) Class Submarines (Class total 3)

The B class submarines were the last of the Holland type built for the US Navy, in fact the last directly designed by John Holland. It was also the last class to have a single axial mounted propeller until the USS Albacore was built in 1953.



B-3 (ex-USS Tarantula) SS-12 underway

The B class also had a streamlined rotating muzzle cap for the torpedo tubes, a feature that continued to be used until the O-class submarines. This feature was to help with underwater speed.

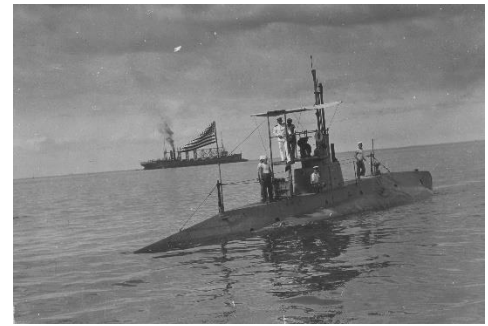


B-2 (ex-Cuttlefish) SS-11 & All B class together

The B class submarines were 82' 6" ft long with a 12' 6" beam, drawing 10' 6". The class had a test depth of 150 feet and a surface speed of 9 knots and submerged speed of 4 knots. Manned by a crew of 10 enlisted and officers the B class had two 18" bow torpedo tubes, carrying 4 torpedoes. These boats were planned for harbor defense.



B-1 and B-2



B-3 (ex-USS Tarantula) SS-12 underway in Manila Harbor

Experience showed that these boats were not suited for the North Atlantic and they were transferred to the Philippines in 1915 along with the Plunger (A class) boats.



B-1 on the collier used to transport it to the Philippines.

All three were decommissioned between 1919 and 1921 and then sunk as targets.



B-3

Western District Commander:

Peter Juhos

Dsv3.ss1@gmail.com

WD8 Commander:

Del Bowby

delbowby@gmail.com

My favorite submarines!



[USS Boise \(SSN 764\) official Page](#)



[USS Idaho \(SSN 799\) Commissioning Committee page](#)

Boise Base Upcoming Events

May 27th - Memorial Day Ceremony at the Idaho State Veteran's Cemetery at 10am. Park at Optimist Park for the shuttle

Veterans Support Events

May 7th - [Kilroy Coffee Klatch](#) from 10 am - 12 pm at the Warhawk Museum (free)

May 18th - 28th - Eagle Field of Valor at Reed Park, dawn to dusk

May 18th - Idaho Veterans Home car show and BBQ

May 18th - [Parade America](#) Nampa Idaho starting at 1100 am

USSVI National Convention

Aug 19-24, 2024 - Cleveland, OH hosted by the [Cod Base](#)

This newsletter will also be available through a link on our Facebook page: [USSVI - Boise Base](#)



May Birthdays

1 Richard Colburn
2 Larry Carson
9 Dean O'Bray
23 Davis Mocaby
...many happy returns



Binnacle List

None this month!
Stay healthy!

Keep anyone we missed in your prayers



Boise Base Wardroom

Commander:

Gary Grunewald
(208) 960-4485
Boisebasefb@gmail.com

Vice-Commander:

OPEN – Your Name here!

Secretary:

Chuck VanDerhoff
(208) 602-4015
charles.vanderhoff44@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Kelly Howe
howe.kelly@yahoo.com

Newsletter/Facebook:

Gary Grunewald
(208) 960-4485
Boisebasefb@gmail.com

Storekeeper:

Brian Thompson
(425) 471-4917
bltzown@yahoo.com

Chaplin:

OPEN – Your Name here!

Membership:

OPEN – Your Name here!



Spring has sprung!

As the days get longer and warmer, we are going to have more events to participate in. I will try to make sure these are listed in our newsletter and on Facebook, so you can come out and have some fun. I hope we can find potential members at these events. Please keep your eye open for fellow "brothers of the 'phin" to join the base. As discussed at the meeting we will purchase standing banners for static events and base business cards that all of us can use when you encounter someone who is unfamiliar with the USSVI and our base. I will also bring to our meetings the American Submariner labels that we can use for magazines we can then release in the wild as recruiting tools.

On May 27th we will be one of only 20 groups presenting a wreath at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery. We have a spot for an additional presenter if someone is interested. Just email me so I can get your name to the organizers. If you want to just come to the event you can park at Optimist Park with a shuttle bus running to the event location. The presentations start at 1000 are really moving.

One last note, a full wardroom is a happy wardroom. We still have open positions in the wardroom that can use a base member to fill them. Please consider stepping up if you can help:

Chalin

COB

Membership

Vice commander

Holland Club chair

Kap 4 Kids chair (This program would need to be restarted)

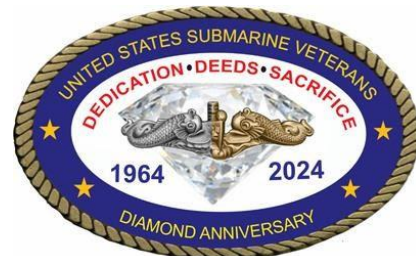
Thanks to all, let's have a great spring!

Ship's Store
For all your USSVI needs
By Brian Thompson



If you need anything available through the USSVI national store, we can get it through our ship's store, with profits going into the base fund. This is a win – win where you get what you need and the base benefits.

The 60th anniversary USSVI patch and coins are still available. Coins are \$6, Patches \$15 and both together are a bargain at \$18. Contact Storekeeper Brian for an order, or order at our meeting on May 18th. We still have some miscellaneous patches and other items available.



[National Storekeeper Site](#)

Boise Base Booster Page

September 2023

Total attendance was 9 members and 3 guests.

October 2023

Total attendance was 7 members and 3 guests. We sadly noted the passing of our longtime Treasurer Bruce Philpot

November 2023

Total attendance was 10 members.

December 2023

No Meeting

January 2024

Total attendance was 12 members and 2 guests.

February 2024

Total attendance was 12 members and one guest.

March 2024

Total attendance was 11 members and 3 guests.

April 2024

Total attendance was 9 members, including WD8 commander Del Bowlby via Zoom, and 2 guests.

Treasurer's Report

Base Fund: \$5447.47 (w/o the \$470.00 in pending deposits)
Memorial Fund: \$11677.56

We are still working on transferring our accounts to US Bank.

Boosters for 2024

Many thanks to those who were Boise Base Boosters last year, helping to defray the basic admin costs of running the Base. Time rolls on and it is the new year. The Base still needs your help and support for 2024. Please bring your donations to Kelly at the next meeting you attend, details below.

Ron Dale	Friend of Boise Base	USAF
Frank Larvie	USS Tirante	SS-420
Jeff Jensen	USS Benjamin Franklin	SSBN-640
Pete Tardiff	USS George Washington	SSBN-598
Gary Grunewald	USS Plunger	SSN-595
Tollan Whitlock	USS Tinosa	SSN-606
Mark Cluff	USS Michigan	SSBN-727
Mark Arnstam	USS Tullibee	SSN-597
Cindy Arnstam	Friend of Boise Base	
Larry Zilli	USS Will Rogers	SSBN-659
Linda Zilli	Friend of Boise Base	
Doug Foote	Friend of Boise Base	USAF
Mark Kirkland	USS Key West	SSN-722
Bob Bradey	USS Dace	SSN-607

Boise Base Boosters help defray the costs of the USS Boise model and Boise Base activities.

Annual Boosters - \$30 for yourself and an additional \$10 if you include your wife or friend. Larger contributions gratefully accepted.

Make your check out to 'USSVI Boise Base' and bring it to a meeting or mail to:
Gary Grunewald
1211 S Taylor St
Nampa, Id 83686



USSVI Boise Base

Meeting Minutes - April 20, 2024

Present: 9 Members (one by Zoom), 2 guests

Next meeting: May 18, 2024, at 11 a.m. Meridian Senior Center, Kleiner Park, Meridian Idaho. (Kleiner Park is next to The Village at Eagle and Fairview Ave. We will meet in the Dogwood Room.)

Commander Gary Grunewald oversaw the meeting,

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, the Tolling of the Bells. There was no review of the past minutes or a Treasurer's report.

Commander Grunewald started the meeting by providing information to the group regarding the storage of the submarine model. Currently it is stored at the Commander's residence. Other ideas for storage were discussed.

The model will be at the Parade of America on May 18th.

On May 27th we will be presenting a wreath at the Veterans Cemetery.

The Commander continued by discussing banners that we could purchase. The banners have information on our base, along with a QR code that a viewer may scan, on top. On the bottom of the banner is the list of all former submariners from Idaho who gave their lives in service of our country. The banners will be displayed along with the model at various events. A motion was put forth and the banners will be purchased. Also, a discussion was held on business cards to be distributed among members that could be handed out to potential members. This also was voted on and approved to purchase 500 cards.

There was a visitor at the meeting from Lehi Utah (Harder Base), so the attending members introduced themselves and provided some background on their submarine history.

Past Commander Brinkman provided information on the problems holding up construction of the VA veteran's homes in the state. The Director of the Idaho Department of Veteran Services, Mark Tschampi stated that the remodeling/building of Idaho State Veterans homes are being impacted by a current Presidential policy called Buy American, Build American (BABA). Currently there are no U.S. manufacturers of elevators. No waiver to the BABA policy is being allowed currently, so our veterans are being impacted. A group discussion was then held, and it was determined that it would be useful for all individuals to contact their representatives regarding this.

A final suggestion was made that when you are done reading your quarterly magazine, The American Submariner, bring them to the meeting for redistribution. Brian Thompson stepped in to be our new Storekeeper. He has 2024 calendars, and he also talked about how members can order patches and paraphernalia from the USSVI website or Bc Patch, a site on Ebay through him. That way the base gets proceeds for the sales.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.

BOISE BASE ON ETERNAL PATROL – SAILORS, REST YOUR OARS

Mitchell L Lint USS Ethan Allen (SSBN-608) 2/12/2002 Former Boise Base Commander	William Hutchings USS Cod (SS-224) USS Tilefish (SS-307) 4/30/2007	Tony Wurschmidt USS Bremerton (SSN-698) 10/7/2011	Joseph H Strong USS Saury (SS-189) USS Spot (SS-413) 10/18/2012
William Charles Van Kirk USS S-45 (SS-156) 1/20/2013	Winston F Von Brethorst USS Pogy (SS-266) USS Gunnel (SS-253) USS S-48 (SS-159) USS O-2 (SS-63) 10/26/2013	Edgar Lee Carlson USS Spikefish (SS-404) 3/10/2014 Former Boise Base Commander	De Vaughn Wilder USS Perch (SS-313) USS Chivo (SS-341) 1/13/2015
Al Pilch USS Halfbeak (SS-352) 7/27/2015	John Henry King USS Mingo (SS-261) USS Parche (SS-307) 5/13/16	Steve Scott USS ?? (SS-???) 3/3/2017	Fred Don Wagner USS Redfish (SS-395) 1/18/2018
William Lee Heist USS John Marshall (SSBN-611) 6/19/2018	Louis (Marty) Martinez USS Catfish (SS-339) 8/12/2018	Curtis Alan Rideout USS Drum (SSN-677) 9/26/2018	Charles Everett Finney World War II USS Sub Relief Crew(SS0) 12/8/2018
Alan Fredrick Missman USS ?? (SS-???) 1/15/2019	Ronald Ray May Submarine Repair 2/10/2019	Jim French - Idaho Falls Commisioning Crew USS Nautilus (SSN-571) 4/11/2019	Archie Ray Clemens USS Pogy (SSN-647) 3/14/2020
Joe E Queen USS Nautilus (SSN-571) 3/23/2020	William Robert Walker, Jr USS Lewis and Clark (SSBN-644) 5/31/2020	Jack Douglas Gilmour USS Carp (SS-338) 2/11/2021	Byron Johnson 7/26/2021
Jame Arthus "Jim" Himing USS Ulysses S Grant (SSBN-631) 8/16/2021	Marion Shinn USS Guavina (SS-362) 3/18/2022	Don Ehinger USS Sea Cat (SS-399) USS Simon Bolivar (SSBN-641) USS James K Polk (SSBN-645) USS Hector (AR-7) 10/5/2022	William Clarke Syme USS Dace (SS-247) 1/24/2023
Leo Van Hoover USS ??? (SS-???)	Bill Bochat USS ?? (SS-???)	Edwin McGann USS Brill (SS-330) USS Sea Owl (SS-405)	Bruce Philpott USS Pickerel (SS-524) 10/18/2023

If you have any information that would help us update the eternal patrol list, please share it with

boisebasefb@gmail.com Thank you!

Newsletter Links:

This newsletter contains links to websites to provide more information on the subject. Look for anything in blue that is underlined. Click it and your browser should open to the linked webpage. You may need to allow (authorize) external links to work.

Stay Curious!

"Riding the vents" is the monthly publication of Boise Base. The editor is often guilty of plagiarizing anything he reads and likes. Please feel free to copy anything you like, but if he gets in trouble, so will you. If you would like a copy of this emailed to a friend or potential new member, please contact the editor at the email provided.

Vietnam War Veterans Day



*USS Boise with Base Member
Charles Van Derhoff*

The Boise Base was well represented at the Vietnam War Veterans Day held at Kleiner Park in Meridian. The USS Boise model was on display for the first time this year and looking good as usual. Brian Thompson acted as both our Spec Op leader and Tug operator, thanks for stepping up!



Military Vehicles Jeep and Huey

This was the 4th annual celebration. The day is to honor Vietnam War Veterans and included a missing man table and other ceremonies.



Missing Man table and crowd

The weather was good, allowing participants to enjoy food and music while visiting the various booths and enjoying the vehicles on display.



More crowd photos, good turnout

The best part about these events is having the opportunity to talk about submarines with people. It also gives us a chance to find submariners who don't know about the Boise Base. This event we met four who did not know about the base, hopefully we will see them at a future meeting. I want to thank all the base members who showed up and helped out, **thank you.**



Boise Base table



Next Meeting....

May 20th at 11 am Meridian Senior Center in the Dogwood room

