

## April USSVI Scamp Base Newsletter

1. The April Scamp Base meeting will be held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1000 hours at Charlie's Restaurant, 210 N. Ivy, corner Ivy and Pennsylvania in Escondido.

The March meeting was small, with only 8 members present. Vice Cdr. McCoy called the meeting to order, with D00kie Mitchell's diving klaxon, then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. Eternal Patrol. Good news, nothing to report.

3. Longevity Pins: Gonzalo Santa Maria received his 5 year pin, and will get a 10 yr pin next year. Base CO Troy Hendrickson was not present, and will receive his pin at this April meeting. Treasurer Bob Leider did surprise Vice Cdr, McCoy with his 1 year pin!

4. April Birthdays: Frank Lister, John McCullum, Buck Parker, and Jimmy Wilson. If any of you have not seen your name on a monthly Scamp gram in the past, please contact McCoy at [ormmac@aol.com](mailto:ormmac@aol.com) to correct this omission.

5. Chase Bank/ Scamp account. Treasurer Bob Leider reported that Chase Bank has finally removed all monthly service charges for both the general and scholarship accounts. The motion to move the accounts to Navy Federal Credit union was not adopted. "If it's not broken, why fix it?"

6. Upcoming events: The Western Regional Roundup will be held April 10th-12th in Silverdale Washington, and will be attended by members Rocky Rockers and Owen McCoy. A report of the roundup will be in the May newsletter.

The Old Timers Luncheon will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, in San Diego, at a location and time to be announced. I will promulgate data when received. Last year, it was held at the San Diego Marine Corps Recruit Depot, and was well attended.

The 2024 124<sup>th</sup> Submarine Ball will be held on Saturday, 4 May, at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel. Tickets for E6 and below are \$70; E7 and above, plus civilians, will be \$80. The Khaki Social for Officers, VIPs and CPOs will happen at 1600-1700 hours, cost is \$20. Dinner and ceremony is from 1700-2300, with attire will be Full Dress Blues or better for military, with formal attire for civilians. For more information, including room reservations, call 619-291-2900

USSVI 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be held at the Groton Base, Connecticut May 29<sup>th</sup> thru June 1<sup>st</sup>. For more information and details, contact the Anniversary Committee at [anniversary@USSVIgroton.org](mailto:anniversary@USSVIgroton.org).

The 2024 USSVI annual Convention will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, Aug 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, where the USS COD is the local attraction for us, along with many other attractions. For more information, contact Joe Marinelli at 440-205-6089. Since many of the Scamp members are located all over the country, it might be a great place for a mini-reunion of our base!.

7, History question #2: How many USSVI bases are there in California? Answer: 12; Arroyo Grande, Anderson, Folsom, Mountain View, Murrieta, Port Hueneme, Riverside, San Diego, Seal Beach, Vallejo and of course, Escondido.

7a. History Question #3 What States do NOT have USSVI Bases ? Answer: 3; Alaska, West Virginia and Washington, DC.

7b. History question #4: How many members in the USSVI? Answer: As of March 28, USSVI membership totalled 11,627. This is a fluctuating number, as Eternal Patrol deletions and new member signups occur. Have you actively tried to recruit any new members recently?

8. Tolling of Lost Boats for April:

USS Pickerel SS177 lost on April 3, 1945, on 7<sup>th</sup> War Patrol. Lost off island of Honshu. The exact cause of loss was never determined, but she was in a OP area that was heavily mined. ( 74 men lost)

USS Snook SS 279 lost on April 8<sup>th</sup> 1945 She was lost near Hainan Island, possibly sunk by a Japanese Submarine. (84 men lost)

USS Thresher, SSN 593 lost on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1963 with loss of 112 crew members and 17 civilian technicians during deep dive tests. She lies some 220 miles east of Boston, in 1400 fathoms of water. Following her loss, submarines were limited to a much shallower depth until Subsafe improvements could be made.

USS Gudgeon SS 211 On 12<sup>th</sup> WP, probably lost on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1944 southeast of Iwo Jima, but may have been sunk on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 1944 in another attack on an unidentified submarine, heard by several other boats in the area. Gudgeon had several firsts: First to go on patrol after Dec 7<sup>th</sup> in Pearl Harbor; On first patrol, she was first US submarine to sink an enemy warship, picking off Japanese sub I-173 . Gudgeon lost 79 men.

USS Grenadier SS210 on April 22, 1943 near Penang. Spotted by an aircraft, she was bombed while diving, and settled on the bottom in 270 feet of water. After fighting fires and flooding, the boat surfaced, no propulsion, and was scuttled . Of the 76 crews members taken prisoner, 72 survived the war.

9: Your newsletter editor is toying with the concept of a monthly Member highlight. A paragraph or two to bring us up to date on how you are doing. Since almost half of our members are out of state, we never get to meet you. I'm not thinking of a book, just a few words to let us know how you are doing. If you feel that this might be worthwhile, drop a short note to me at [ormmac@aol.com](mailto:ormmac@aol.com)., or a letter to Mac McCoy at 1727 Doral Glen, Escondido, CA 92026