

February SCAMP Base Newsletter

1. The February SCAMP Base meeting will be held on Saturday, 24 February, 1000 hours, at Charlie's Restaurant, 210 N. Ivy, corner Ivy and Pennsylvania in Escondido. All local members are encouraged to attend. The January meeting attendance was 12 members, 3 guests, and one prospective new member. Bob Haselby, ET1(SS) saw one of the newspaper articles submitted by Bob Leider each month prior to the meeting, and came to find out about us.
2. Eternal Patrol: I was informed by member Lou Minor that Lewis A. Ross, MM2(SS), who rode SCAMP in the '62-64 time frame had passed away in Utah on in January 2024. In trying to submit his name to the American Submariner Magazine Eternal Patrol, I could not find any record of his base membership, that possibly he had let his base membership lapse. I contacted the USSVI National Office, where Office Manager Dennis Nardone was able to do a search of past records, to prove he was a SCAMP base member. Lewis Ross will be noted in the next AS magazine.

As a result of my searching, I came across several VERY IMPORTANT items for all of us to consider concerning our passing away in the future:

2.A. Copying from the 2024 Navy Retiree Newsletter: "We have an online tool to report a retiree's death, an informative webpage, and a downloadable checklist, "what to Do When a military retiree dies." We also have a Form Wizard for filling out the form for a retiree's last paycheck, and a form Wizard for filling out the form to claim a Survivor's Benefit Plan annuity. These tools are all available on our Quick Tools webpage: <https://www.dfas.mil/raquicktools>. The tools are also available with detailed information and instructions on our "Report a Retiree's Death" webpage at <https://www.dfas.mil/retdeath>."

2B. On the USSVI website, after you have logged on, you can go to the Eternal Patrol section, and find two important items:

2B(1) Click on Manuals, and go the Survivors_blank_information_sheet.pdf. Download and print.. This will give you a 19 page (YES 19) document for you to record all information your survivor could need to take care of your final needs.. Bank account #s, insurance #s, location of important documents, etc.

2B(2) Next, go to Notices, and go to Submitting_Eternal_Patrol_Notices.pdf. This will give directions of how they can inform USSVI of your death. Then, click on Final_Instructions.pdf for a cover sheet for all the document you will amass.

I think you will find that the 19 page printout is the most complete set of records you have ever seen.

When paired with the information Scamp base sent out several month ago should make your survivor's task easier. Quickly listed are important phone #s:

To stop pay: Defense Finance and accounting service: 800-321-1080 This to begin your survivor's benefits, if eligible.
Social Security 800-772-1213
Dept. Vet Affairs for burial Flag 800-827-1000
Local Retired Activities office

3. The Base Leadership positions available to be filled came up at the Jan meeting, and it was requested that a description of these positions be given. The following is taken from the SCAMP Base Bylaws:
 - a. Parliamentarian. Appointed by Base Cdr, he advises the Base Cdr. and other officers, committees, and members on matters of parliamentary procedures. His role is purely an advisory and consultative one since parliamentary law gives to the chair alone the power of rule on questions of order or to answer parliamentary questions.
 - b. Chaplain. Appointed by the Base Cdr, he recites or leads invocations and benedictions where such prayers are offered at the opening and or closing of meetings or other events. He will be responsible for appropriate services in the case of a member's demise and will appoint as Assistant Chaplain to assist in these matters, and to act as Chaplain in his absence. The Chaplain will maintain a "Binnacle List" of members who have either serious failing health or in a "Care Facility", and he will publish this to the Base Cdr. for publication to all the Base Membership. Leroy Bannach presently serves as Chaplain.
 - c. Chief of the Boat. The Chief of the Boat will assist in maintaining order on the floor during meetings, he will ensure that all persons present at meetings have signed the "Sailing List" which he will turn over to the Base Secretary at the conclusion of the meeting, and is in charge of physical arrangements of the meeting place. He will assume additional duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Base Cdr.
 - d. Other positions currently filled include:
 1. Base Storekeeper, Bob Leider. Obtains and sells memorabilia to raise monies for base usage.
 2. Newsletter Editor, currently filled by Owen McCoy
 3. Webmaster. He is responsible for the creation and maintenance of the Web page on the internet Currently is David Kauppinen, residing in AZ.
4. Memorabilia Chairman, currently Bob Leider (Who has a huge closet full of items!)

3. (Continued) Committees listed in the Bylaws: Membership Committee, Scholarship Committee, and Nominations Committee. However, with the extremely low meeting attendance due to members residing out of state, or out of local area, these committees often become members wearing several hats, or become one man committees. No practical remedy is available.

4. February Birthdays: Mike Hyman, JJ Lynch, Bruce Madden, Jerry Rose, Lou Minor, Tom Shipman, and John Chamberlain.

5. Charitable Funds Update: Ken Earls contacted me after seeing the article in the Jan Scamp gram indicating a \$97,000 shortfall in donations to the CF, and proposed the following (reachable??) solution. If every one of the total USSVI membership was able to contribute just one \$10.00 bill, the deficit would be wiped out! That's food for thought!

6. Those of you residing in California, Take NOTICE! I received a memo from a San Diego Base friend about possible ballot measures in November. I probably shouldn't discuss politics, but this is important.

a. Repeal of Prop 13; Calif politicians have placed two measures on the Nov. 2024 ballot (ACA-1 and ACA-13) to gut prop 13 and make it easier to raise your taxes.

b. Sales Tax: politicians have placed a massive sales tax measure to raise your state tax near to 10%

c. Calif politicians have decided to give your private tax returns to your utility company so they can set your utility rates based on your income.

Other POSSIBLE (but not yet ready for ballot) money grabbing tax proposals are in the works: Mileage tax, a 6¢ per mile tax and a proposal to double the State taxes to fund government run healthcare, as much as \$16,000 per household, coming just on the heels of the fact that politicians have recently given illegal immigrants free taxpayer funded health insurance! Also proposed: an EXIT TAX for up to 10 years on residents who move out of California (how would this be enforced???) and a Savings tax on your personal savings and investments. No wonder so many of the SCAMP base members have moved out of California!!!!!!

7. Speakers Bureau: At the Jan meeting, member Art McKinnell brought up the topic of the Speakers Bureau he is associated with. This organization is always looking for people who can volunteer their time to address places like Rotary Club. It might be a way for us to get our USSVI information out to the local population, getting the much needed publicity we look for. Think about it! Art's email address is avail upon request.

Boats lost in February:

USS Barbel (SS 316) 4 Feb 1945 4th War Patrol, sunk by aircraft bombs (81 men lost)

USS Shark I (SS174) 11 Feb 1942 1st WP, First sub lost in Pacific. Depth charged (59 lost)

USS Anberjack (SS219) 16 Feb 1943 3rd WP Triple attacked by plane, torpedo boat and sub chaser, depth charged (72 men)

USS Grayback (SS208) 10th WP sunk by Japanese carrier plane with direct hit bomb. (80 men)

USS Trout (SS 202) 29 Feb 1944 11th WP, sunk by escorts after a successful torpedo attack on surface 3 ships. (81 lost)