



UNITED STATES
SUBMARINE VETERANS INC



STRYKER SIGNALS

Our Creed

“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. We pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States government.”

Social

Our next function will be a social gathering at the Clear springs Restaurant at 1200 hours on 18 August 2007. Location is on the 1604 East feeder between Stone Oak Parkway and Highway 281 (look for the Alton Oaks sign).

Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the VFW in Schertz (1000 FM 78) at 1400 hours with a pot luck lunch at 1300 hours on 16 September 2007.

Minutes From the Meeting of July 15, 2007

Call to Order

Base Commander (BC) Frank Simpson called the meeting to order at 1347 hrs. and read the dedication.

We had eight shipmates, seven Associate members, and two visitors. Gary English's grandson, Chandler, and the Walling's grand daughter, Ms. Lumitska.

Invocation

Ruth Walling gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

BC Simpson led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

USSVI Creed

Frank Lister read the USSVI Creed.

New Member Introduction

None.

Reading the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes of the May 20, 2007 meeting were approved as written.

Secretary's Report

There was no Secretary's Report. Gary English was elected as Base Secretary.

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Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

Old Business

- A. 4th of July
 - 1. Fort Sam; Gary English and four others were able to make it and provided cart rides to veterans.
 - 2. Fredericksburg; Great P-Rade with the Grand Marshall being Ret. Marine General Michael Hagee, a native of Fredericksburg. Wreath laying in the Court Yard of the Nimitz Home.

New Business

- A. Gary English took over the base duties of Storekeeper from Ruth Walling. We extend a big BZ to Ruth for her efforts in this function in the past few years.
- B. The nominating committee was given marching orders for CY 2008 officers.
- C. Program ideas were solicited from Members
- D. August Social. 18 August 2007.
 - 1. BC will check on "Cotton Gin" Restaurant in Fredericksburg.
(Note: Cotton Gin Restaurant is not open during the day on weekends, as found out by BC later.)
 - 2. Barry Martin suggested a restaurant in the Spring Branch area. Details to follow.
- E. Memorials and Donations
 - 1. Motion was made and approved to donate \$50.00 to USSVI CF in memory of Shipmate Richard Osentoski's wife, Diana, who passed away 2 July 2007.
 - 2. Motion was made and approved to send \$100.00 to International Submarine Association Congress for seed money for the proposed convention in San Diego 2009. USSVI convention will be in the same time frame.
- F. Memorial Plaques. Barry Martin presented info on a SubVet Memorial Plaque for those on Eternal Patrol. Motion was made and approved to provide this Memorial Plaque to all Widows, (or other next-of-kin) of Phillip C. Stryker, Jr. Base Members since inception. Motion also approved \$550.00 to purchase ten Memorial Plaques for stock.
- G. Gary English will present his Map Proposal for the "Tolling of the Boats" service at the September meeting.

Other Information

- A. Notice of the Nimitz Symposium at Fredericksburg 15-16 September 2007 was given. Title: "Turning Point; Midway and Guadalcanal"
- B. Pictures from the June Social are available.
- C. Moment of Silence for:
 - 1. Diana Osentoski, died 2 July 2007
 - 2. Charles E. Schaub (Charter member Phillip C. Stryker, Jr. Base USSVI), died 14 March 2007.
 - 3. RADM Eugene B. Fluckey (Last of the WWII Medal of Honor Winners), died 28 June 2007.
- D. Treasurer noted that dues notices for 2008 will go out late in August.

For the Good of the Order

- A. Dave Shelley (XO) presented the following Base Awards earned during 2006.
1. USSVI Robert Link Base Plaque Award (one of three awarded by USSVI) for all your work and effort in getting the USS Texas (SSN 775) commissioned in Galveston, Texas, 19 September 2006.
 2. The District Four Base of the Year Award, again for the efforts concerning the commissioning of the USS Texas (SSN 775).
 3. All Hands should be quite proud of these awards, as it is an indication of the planning and execution used in pulling the commissioning off. The work started back in 2004. A big Bravo Zulu to all hands, and my thanks.

Benediction

BC Simpson gave the Benediction.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 1442 hrs.

FROM THE HUMOR BILGE

1. **Fine:** This is the word women use to end an argument; they are right and you need to shut up!
2. **Five Minutes:** If she is getting dressed, this means half an hour. Five minutes is only five minutes if you have just been given five more minutes to watch the game before helping around the house.
3. **Nothing:** This is the calm before the storm. This means something, and you should be on your toes. Arguments that begin with **nothing** usually end up with **fine**.
4. **Go Ahead:** This is a dare, not permission. Don't do it!
5. **Loud Sigh:** This is not actually a word, but it's a non-verbal statement often misunderstood by men. A loud sigh means she thinks you are an idiot and wonders why she is wasting her time standing here arguing with you about **nothing**. (Refer to #3 for the meaning of **nothing**.)
6. **That's Okay:** This is one of the most dangerous statements a woman can make to a man. **That's okay** means she wants to think long and hard before deciding on how and when you will pay for your mistake.
7. **Thanks:** A woman is thanking you. Do not question, or faint, just say: "You're welcome."
8. **Whatever:** A woman's way of saying: "You dumb #%^&!!!"
9. **Don't Worry About It, I Got It:** Another dangerous statement, meaning something that a woman has told a man to do several times, but is now doing it herself. This will later result in a man asking: "What's wrong?" A woman's response will be "**Nothing!**" (Refer to #3 for the meaning of **nothing**).



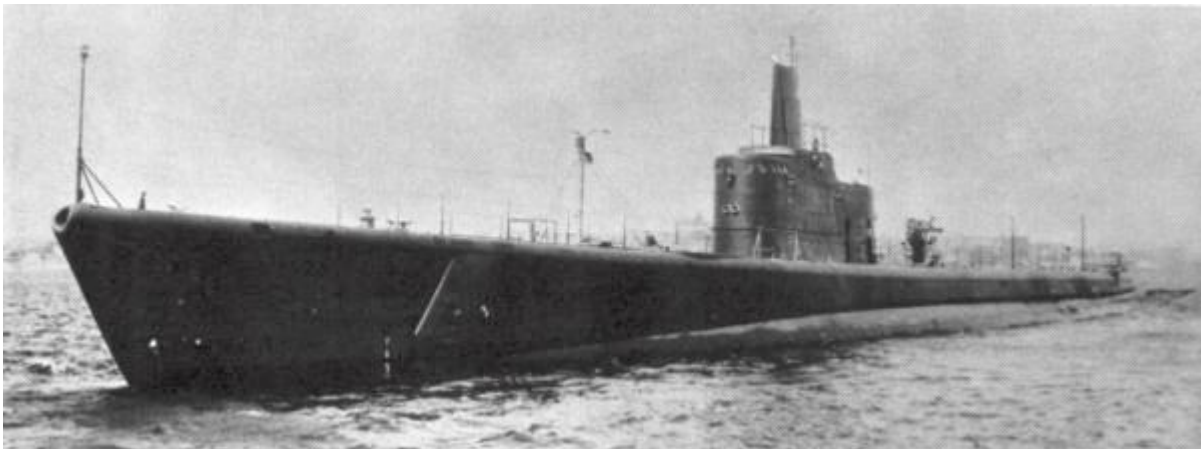
Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet

USS GRUNION (SS 216) July 30, 1942 - 70 Men Lost

The submarine GRUNION arrived at Pearl Harbor on 20 June 1942, reporting for duty from the West Coast. This vessel engaged in the pre-patrol training given to all submarines reporting from new construction yards, and on 30 June, left for patrol.

Lt. Cmdr. Mannert L. Abele, in command, was ordered to proceed to the Aleutian Theater and patrol westward from Attu on routes between the Aleutians and the Japanese Empire. On 10 July GRUNION was reassigned to the area north of Kiska. GRUNION made her first report on 15 July: Dutch Harbor received her message that, attacked by an enemy destroyer, she had fired three torpedoes at it, and missed with all.

Shortly after this message was received GRUNION sent another relating that she had sunk three destroyer-type vessels on 15 July. This message was garbled to the extent that details of the attacks were never learned (Japanese information reveals that GRUNION sank patrol boats 25 and 27 and damaged a third patrol vessel). On 19 July GRUNION, S-32, TRITON and TUNA were assigned areas in the approaches to Kiska, all to be there by daylight 22 July.



There was a strong concentration of enemy vessels at Kiska, this time being only a month and a half after the enemy had taken that island. The vessels patrolling there were told to watch particularly on the afternoon of 22 July 1942 for departing enemy naval vessels, since our own

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surface forces were scheduled to bombard Kiska that afternoon. The bombardment did not take place in accordance with the original plans, but our forces did stage the operation on 28 July and GRUNION was told to guard the exits from Kiska during darkness on this date. On this day GRUNION reported an attack on unidentified enemy ships six miles southeast of Sirius Point, Kiska. She had fired two torpedoes, made no hits, and been depth charged, but sustained no damage.

GRUNION's last transmission was received 30 July 1942. She reported heavy antisubmarine activity at the entrance to Kiska, and that she had ten torpedoes remaining. On the same day, GRUNION was directed to return to Dutch Harbor. She was not contacted or sighted after 30 July, despite every effort to do so, and on 16 August was reported lost. Planes observing the approaches to Kiska for indications of enemy salvage operations in connection with GRUNION reported negatively.

Japanese antisubmarine attack data available now record no attack in the Aleutian area at this time, and GRUNION's fate remains an unsolved mystery. We know of no enemy minefields which were in her area; thus her loss may be presumed to have been operational or as a result of an unrecorded enemy attack.

UPDATE - A gentleman in Japan, Yutaka Iwasaki, posted some interesting information on his website, about sunken Japanese ships during WWII, which includes information about the possible fate of the USS GRUNION.

The Kano Maru was sunk at Kiska Mr. Iwasaki kindly provided some very interesting information about the ship's history and the USS GRUNION. He provided the following on the history of the ship in connection to the loss of the GRUNION (publications S.Komamiya's Wartime ship history (1991 private issue) and JIRO Kimata's Submarine attack" (2000 Kojin-Sya)):

Kano Maru

- 30 July, 1942 - 08:00 Arrived at 36km north of Kiska. Heavy fog prevented approach, lost contact with the escort, forced drifting. Getting location by astronomical, she restarted approach to Kiska with 15kt.
- 31 July, 1942 - 05:47 Torpedoed by Submarine Grunion (SS-216). One hit at machinery room starboard, main engine and generator stopped. No more escape nor radio.
05:57 Second torpedo came, but passed below the ship. Kano Maru pretended to launch seaplane without pilot, failed to start propeller.
06:07 Third and fourth torpedo came, hit fore bridge and amidships on the port but both dud. The Grunion intended to surface and sink by gunfire, ripples was seen 400m distance from her. Kano Maru had two old 8cm guns on forecastle and stern. Stern's one malfunction by the torpedo shock, but forecastle gun fired to the periscope. 13mm machine guns on bridge fired as well. Before the sub appear the whole, fourth shot from Kano Maru hit the conning tower of the sub. It is thought the last of Grunion. The attack had ceased. Later rescue came from Kiska, three seaplanes, cable layer Ukishima, and sub chaser No. 26.

For over 50 years the skipper's three sons knew little about what happened to their father's submarine. In 2002, due to an update on this website which helped pinpoint where USS GRUNION may have sunk, the Abele brothers began working on a plan to find the submarine. Last August 2006, a team of side scan sonar experts hired by the brothers located a target near Kiska almost a mile deep which may be USS GRUNION. Efforts by the Abele brothers to determine their father's fate are continuing.

Sailors Lost On USS GRUNION (SS-216) 7-30-1942

Abele, M. L. LCDR
Alexander, F. E. SM3
Allen, D. E. SM3
Arvan, H. J. Matt2
Banes, P. E. CMOMM
Bedard, L. J. I. CMOMM
Blinston, W. H. RM3
Bonadies, N. R. F2
Boo, R. F. RM3
Bouvia, C. L. MM1
Caldwell, G. E. CEM
Carroll, R. H. S2
Clift, J. S. TM2
Collins, M. F. F2
Cooksey, L. D. MOMM1
Cullinane, D. MM1
Cuthbertson, W. H., Jr. ENS
Deaton, L. D. S2
DeStoop, A. E. CTM
Devaney, W. P., Jr. S2
Dighton, S. R., Jr. LTJG
Doell, L. H., Jr. RM2
Franck, L. H. S1
Graham, M. D. CTM
Hall, K. E. S2
Hellensmith, E. G. EM3
Henderson, H. B. MOMM2
Hutchinson, C. R. TM3
Kennedy, S. J., Jr. MOMM2
Knowles, E. E., Jr. S2
Kockler, L. R. TM1
Kornahrens, W. G. LT
Ledford, M. J. CY
Lehman, W. W. EM1
Loe, S. A. MOMM2
Lunsford, S., Jr. EM2
Lyon, J. W. F1
Martin, C. R. CMOMM
Martin, T. E. EM1
Mathison, R. EM1
McCutcheon, R. G. TM3
McMahon, J. M. LT
Miller, E. C. F2
Myers, D. O. F1
Nave, F. T. MOMM2
Newcomb, A. G. RM1
Nobles, J. W. MOMM1
Pancoast, J. E. MOMM2

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Parziale, C. A. TM3
Paul, C., Jr. MATT2
Pickel, B. J. S1
Post, A. C. S2
Randall, W. H. RM2
Ryan, L., Jr. S2
Sanders, H. A. MOMM1
Schumann, E. T. CQM
Sullivan, P. P. PHM1
Surofchek, S. SC1
Swartwood, D. N. S2
Templeton, S. A. GM1
Thomas, M. W. LT
Traviss, B. A. S2
Ullmann, A. S1
VanWoggelum, M. F. F3
Walter, M. H. F3
Webster, R. E. EM2
Welch, D. F. FC2
Wells, J. H. TM2
Wilson, J. E., Jr. SC3
Youngman, R. J. F2