



February
2016

CORVINA BASE NEWS

Newsletter of the Year Awards

2014 Class 2 First Runner Up
2012 Western Region Class 2 Winner

2013 Western Region Class 2 Winner
2011 Class 1 Honorable Mention



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Denotes a Holland Club Member



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.

Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

Shipmates and friends,

First of all, allow me to quote a bit from our Corvina Base Bylaws, Article II, Section 2: "In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for Submariners to gather for mutual benefit and enjoyment." What that means to me is that we support each other in many ways.

I am impressed by the generosity of the shipmates and friends of Corvina Base. During our February meeting, probably one of the largest turnouts for a regular meeting, generosity was displayed over and over. There were a substantial number of great raffle prizes donated. Thank you all for your contributions to a good cause. Clyde Webber won the 50/50 drawing and immediately donated his winnings, \$95.00, to the Base. Thank you Clyde. You're a Great American and Corvina Base Booster.

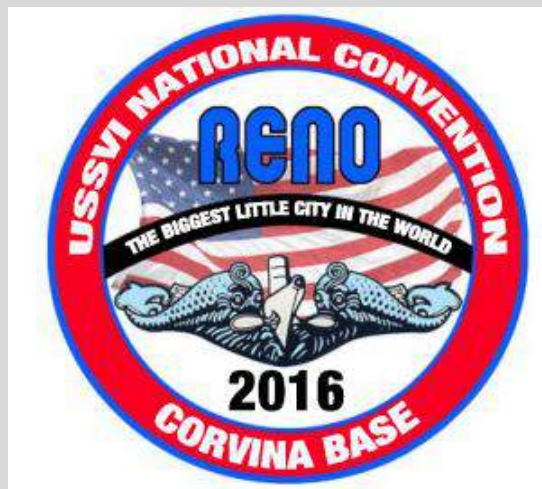
Many members donate their time in support of Corvina Base activities. This Base could not function without their efforts. Thank all of you for what time you voluntarily give in support of your shipmates and friends.

In the future, volunteers will be needed to support the 2016 USSVI National Convention which we're hosting at the Grand Sierra in August. Some of the assistance we need for the convention will be very easy and will only require a couple of hours of your time. Some will require a lot more effort. Think about what you can do to lend a hand. In the meantime, please get your registration in so we can start estimating what the turnout will be. Also, please think about becoming a USSVI Convention donor. The info is on the convention website.

Over the past year, Bill Conklin, Primo Quarisa and Paul Young have worked tirelessly at making the USSVI Kap(SS) 4Kid(SS) a successful outreach program by Corvina Base. It has been far more than successful. They have completed numerous hospital visits and brought smiles to many children. Keep up the good work Sailors and thank you for making Corvina Base look good.

Best regards, and once again, thank all of you for your generosity,

Dennis Wiley
Base Commander
Corvina Base, Reno



*"Volunteers are not paid
-- not because they are
worthless, but because
they are priceless."*

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**February
Meeting Minutes**



The meeting was called to order by Commander Wiley at 1400 as the COB sounded two blasts on the klaxon. After an Invocation by Chaplain Paul Allen, the Pledge of Allegiance, reading of the USSVI Creed, Tolling of the Bell for Boats lost in February, and Moment of Silence for all departed submariners, shipmates, family and friends followed in their usual order. There were 31 members and guests present.

One of our guests was Ms Cindy Austin – Burrill, who is also a representative of Drum Base. And a potential new Corvina Base member. We thank her for her attendance and her interest in USSVI.

The minutes of the January meeting were accepted as published in the Newsletter.

Vice-Commander Salzman had no report for this month.

Secretary Pete Akerson reported no mail had been received requiring Base action and that the title for the BASE float/trailer has been located.

Treasurer Dave Aunkst reports that the base is still in very sound financial condition.

Chaplain Paul Allen reported no new additions to the Binnacle List.

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster Norm Peterson had nothing to report.

Co-COBs Paul Allen and Leif Larsen had no report to make.

This month's 'Lunch-Bunch' gathering will be held at BJs Barbeque, at 80 E. Victorian Ave., Sparks at 1130 on February 19th.

Cont next page

There was no Recruiter report for this month.

There was no report from the Ad-Hoc Board members.

Convention Committee Chairman Terry Bolen reports the next meeting will be at 0900 on February 20 at the Grand Sierra.

Commander Wiley Thanked Past Treasurer Robert Talbert for his fine service in that position during the past year.

There was no Parade report for this meeting. Corvina Base intends to participate in parades on the 4th of July, Veterans Day and Nevada Day this year. Commander Wiley once again called for a volunteer to serve as Parade Chairman/Co-ordinator.

Kaps-4-Kids Chairman Bill Conklin reported on the fine progress the group is making and their future plans.

After a short break for ticket sales, the monthly 50/50 raffle was conducted with the following results:

Wine – Cindy Austin – Burrill Wine – Ken Anderson Wine – Paul Young Flashlight – Leif Larsen Book – Ken Anderson Axe – Leif Larsen Wine – Primo Quarisa Wine – Linda Ely DVD – Frank Ely Scissors – Bill Conklin Candle-holder – Paul Allen Wine – Paul Young Picture – Linda Ely Calendar – Dave Aunkst Knife Ken Anderson Cap – Terry Bolen Wine – Dale Poe Knife – Don Johnson Necklace – Frank Ely Wine – Wes Rece Knife – Wes Rece

The \$95.00 cash prize was won by Clyde Webber, who immediately donated the entire amount to the Base Booster Fund! We All thank you, Clyde!

After a Benediction by Chaplain Allen, Commander Wylie adjourned the meeting at 1447.as the COB/COBs sounded three blasts on the klaxon.

Respectfully,
Pete Akerson, Secretary



Treasurers

Report

1. All account balances are available at the Base meetings.
2. Deposits for February:

From February Base Meeting	\$535.00
(Raffle/Dues/Booster Club)	
USSVI/Base Dues Receipts	240.00
3. Checks issued in February:

USSVI National Dues Paid	\$395.00
Transfer to Money Market Account	12,500.00
Quicken 2016 Program	44.99
Nevada DMV/Sub Float Title Correction	21.00

We had a successful member renewal process for 2016. We lost a total of four members; three moved out of town and only one didn't renew. This is far less than the average in past years. After adding one new member, we now have 87 members in the Base, plus four Honorary Members.

The new member was Rudy Massenzi of Reno, be sure to welcome him at the next meeting. He was a TM3(SS), and qualified on the Redfish in 1960; and later on the Blueback, and reserve boat Pampanito.



Walker for retired sailors



CORVINA BASE KAP(SS) 4 Kid(SS) TEAM

VISITS SEVEN CHILDREN

February was a busy month for the Corvina Base Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Team with visits to both St. Mary's Pediatric Unit and Renown Children's Hospital. A total of seven kids were visited, a monthly high for the Team. All of the visits were great, with one of the highlights being a visit with a 13 year old girl named Emily. Both Emily and her Mom seemed to thoroughly enjoy the visit, and they were excited to hear that the Submarine Force is now accepting women.

We were joined during the visit by a hospital volunteer who brought along his huge, but very well-mannered dog to add to the fun. As with the other children, we presented Emily with a cap and certificate, among other goodies, designating her as "Honorary Submariner". Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Team Members Bill Conklin, Paul Young, Primo Quarisa and Claudia Quarisa participated in the visits.



Having passed the enlistment physical, Jon was asked by the doctor, "Why do you want to join the submarine Navy, son?"
 "My father said it'd be a good idea, Sir."
 "Oh? And what does your father do?"
 "He's in the Army, Sir."



Chaplains Report

Binnacle List

Robert "Bob" Guy Lewis: In the January newsletter, Bob was on the mend from a problematic installation of an artificial cardiac pacemaker. A few days later Bob called and he was already driving their auto and was taking Eleanor to the grocery store. He's mending much faster than predicted. We're happy for you and Eleanor!

David O. Porras: David was on the Binnacle List in April 2014 for a right shoulder replacement knowing then that his left shoulder needed fixing, also. This procedure was recently performed at the Reno Veterans Hospital on Feb. 9, 2016 and required a one night stay. While in the hospital he had a pleasant surprise. Some men from the Gardnerville Elks Club came to the hospital with Valentines made by the students from an elementary school to show their appreciation to the veterans. As I write this David is taking some strong pain killers and sleeping in a recliner chair but mending fine. Congratulations to David and his wife, Mary, who celebrated 50 years of marriage on December 4, 2015!

Easter

I don't ever remember hearing of a submarine crew having on Easter egg hunt (that would be quite a sight), but I'm sure the married men with children had to do this when their boat was in port. Of course, the celebration of Easter is changing in the USA as the years roll by. When I was in elementary school we had a celebration on Good Friday with the whole school involved having an egg hunt with decorated dyed eggs and if I remember right, we had some kind of dessert like a cupcake, brought in by a room mother. We can see now that chocolate bunnies, chocolate eggs and candy filled plastic eggs have taken over.



Christians, of course, see Easter Sunday as a day of great joy, remembering and rejoicing in the event it commemorates – the miracle of Christ's resurrection. The great joy that Christians have is because they believe that through Christ's death on the cross on Good Friday and his resurrection on Easter Sunday and their faith in Him, they have forgiveness of their sin and hope of eternal life in Heaven.

Christ's death and resurrection took place in the week of the Jewish Passover, in the

spring, hence new life is celebrated with bright colors, flowers, chicks, bunnies, and now lots of candy.



Many countries still celebrate Good Friday as a holiday. While two of our son's children were in Scotland for three years there was no school on Good Friday. The Roman Emperor Constantine I "ordered his subjects to dress in their finest and parade in honor of Christ's resurrection," hence Easter Parades. Easter eggs originated in the early Christian community of Mesopotamia, who stained eggs red in memory of the blood of Christ, shed at his crucifixion (photo attached). As such, for Christians, the Easter egg is a symbol of the empty tomb. The second photo is a red egg with a Christian cross, from the Greek Orthodox Monastery, Bolton, Ontario, Canada.



Let me encourage the Corvina Base family with children and grandchildren to celebrate Easter by dying some chicken, duck, duck, or ostrich eggs (real eggs) and decorating them and if possible go to an Easter church service. Everyone can enjoy a great Easter meal to celebrate.

Easter Scripture: John 3:16 – "For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Paul Allen, Corvina Base Chaplain

SHIPMATES ON ETERNAL PATROL

Harry Wellman CS1 (SS)	Harry Sembagh EN3 (SS)
Melvin Phillips ET1 (SS)	Boyd Tieslau TM3 (SS)
Russel Scofield TMCS (SS)	Robert Rich EN1 (SS)
Donald Campbell TM2 (SS)	Francis Signore CSC (SS)
Harold Lister EN3 (SS)	Stanley Blair ICC (SS)
James Avitt RM1 (SS)	Richard Burdette LT. (SS)
Charles H. Massie TM1 (SS)	Wayne F. Garrett ET2 (SS)
Elvin L. Morrison FTC (SS)	Larry Garrelts ETCS(SS)
Erick Bjorum CWO(SS)	Melvin Schreckengost ET2
Norm Snyder EM1(SS)	Charles Hyman MM2(SS)
James T. Wright III	Gordon Lane RMC(SS)
Chester E. MacDowell TMI (SS)	Edwin V. Schalbert TMC (SS)
Jerry D. Noma MM2(SS)	Richard Ekenberg, ETC(SS)
Gerald Stratton ENC(SS)	Richard C. Barringer SOSN(SS)
Lowell Wapelhorst MOMM2(SS)	Jack Quade SMSN(SS)
Bert Skidmore YN2(SS)	Walter Lewis IC1(SS)
Frank Kenyon EM3 (SS)	Bob Heaps IC2 (SS)

Corvina Base Booster Club

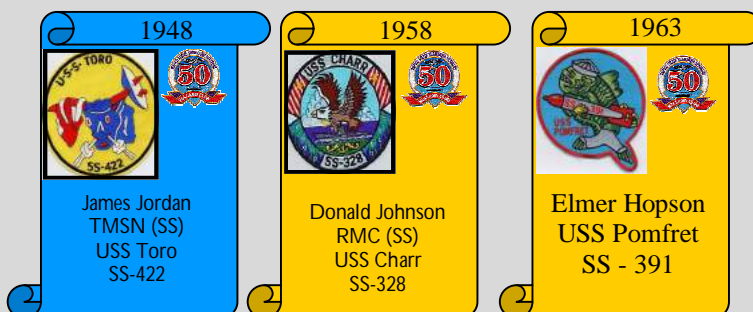
Terry Bolen (In memory of Bob Heaps)

Dave & Mia Aunkst (K4K)

Steve & DeDe Salzman (K4K)

Primo Quarisa (K4K)

Clyde Webber



Meetings are held on the first Saturday
Of each month at Denny's Coffee Shop,
205 E. Nugget Ave. Sparks NV
At 1400 hours.



Corn from the COB

Ron, an eight five year old man, was sitting on the couch with his wife, Maisie, when she said to him, "Why don't you com sit close to me like you used to."

So he did.

After a moment Maisie said, "Why don't you put your arm around me like you used to."

Ron put his arm around Maisie and held her tight. The she said, "Why don't you nibble on my ear like you used to."

Ron got up and left the room.

"Where are you going?" Maisie called out.

"To get my teeth," Ron replied.

A vulture boards a plane carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess says "I'm sorry but we only allow each passenger one carrion."

carrion (the decaying fesh of a dead body, esp. when regarded as food for scavenging animals)

The Buffalo Theory as explained by Cliff Clavin, of Cheers.

One afternoon at Cheers, Cliff Clavin was explaining the Buffalo Theory to his buddy Norm.

Here's how it went:

"Well ya see, Norm, it's like this... A herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo. And when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones at the back that are killed first This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the general speed and health of the whole group keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members. In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Excessive intake of alcohol, as we know, kills brain cells. But naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine. That's why you always feel smarter after a few beers."

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may make you think you are whispering when you are not



What's the Origin of "Kilroy Was Here"?

Ah, Kilroy. The little cartoon bald head, peering over a fence that hid everything except his eyes and his long U-shaped nose... and sometimes his fingers, gripping the top of the fence. And his proclamation, "Kilroy was here."

Graffiti itself goes back to ancient times. Graffiti is found in the ruins of Pompeii, on the walls of ancient Jerusalem, in ancient Egypt. Kilroy follows a long tradition, but was far more famous and all-present than any of them.

"Kilroy was here" emerged during World War II, appearing at truck stops, city restaurants, and in military boardrooms. However, the first appearances seem to have been on military docks and ships in late 1939.



"The mischievous face and the phrase became a national joke," according to author Charles Panati. In theory, he was a soldier, probably American, who travelled all over the world scrawling his immortal phrase. Clearly, the graffiti were scrawled by thousands of different soldiers, not a single one named Kilroy.

During the Forties, Kilroy was everywhere. Panati comments, "The outrageousness of the graffiti was not so much what it said, but where it turned up." He cites the torch of the Statue of Liberty, the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, the Marco Polo Bridge in China, huts in Polynesia, and a girder on the George Washington Bridge in New York. There were contests in the Air Force to beat Kilroy to isolated and uninhabited places around the globe.

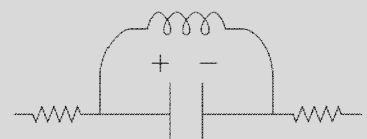
The appearance wasn't always of GI origin, although it was largely tied to the military services. More than once newspapers reported on pregnant women wheeled into the delivery room, with the hospital staff finding "Kilroy was here" written across their stomachs. Panati says, "The most daring appearance occurred during the meeting of the Big Three in Potsdam, Germany, in July 1945. Truman, Attlee, and Stalin had exclusive use of an opulent marble bathroom, off limits to everyone else. On the second day of the summit, an excited Stalin emerged from the bathroom sputtering something in Russian to one of his aides. A translator overheard Stalin demand, 'Who is Kilroy?'" SDSTAFF Mac suggests Panati is a better storyteller than a scholar, though.



There has been much written about the origin and proliferation of Kilroy.

In December 1946 the *New York Times* credited James J. Kilroy, a welding inspector at the Bethlehem Steel shipyard in Quincy, Massachusetts, with starting the craze. Usually, inspectors used a small chalk mark, but welders were erasing those to get double-paid for their work. To prevent this, Mr Kilroy marked his welding work with the long crayoned phrase ("Kilroy was here") on the items he inspected. The graffiti became a common sight around the shipyard and was imitated by workers when they were drafted and sent around the world. As the war progressed, people began opening void spaces on ships for repair, and the mysterious Mr Kilroy's name would be found there, in sealed compartments "where no one had been before."

There are other origin stories, but they're less credible. The cartoon part of the graffiti has a different origin. According to Dave Wilton, it is originally British, named Mr Chad, and apparently predates Kilroy by a



few years. It commonly appeared with the phrase "Wot, no ____?" underneath, with the blank filled in by whatever was in short supply in Britain at the time--cigarettes, Spam, etc. The *Oxford English Dictionary* lists Chad's origin as "obscure" but it may have been created by British cartoonist George Edward Chatterton.

Sometime during the war, Chad and Kilroy met and merged, the American phrase appearing under the British drawing.

The combined logo acquired momentum, appearing wherever servicemen travelled, and quickly infected the civilian population. The mania peaked during the war, lingered into the 50s, and then pretty much died out, the joke forgotten as memories of World War faded.

There have been recurrences and imitators. There was a Canadian version named Clem. In the late 60s, there was a version in Los Angeles called Overby. But none of these approached the popularity and ubiquitousness of the original.



One of the WW II era's most popular comic figurines: a pregnant girl standing on a pedestal bearing the legend "Kilroy Was Here."

Lost boats in March

[USS F-4 \[ex-SKATE\] \(SS23\)](#) was lost on **21-Mar-1915** with the loss of **19 crew** when it foundered off Honolulu Harbor.

[USS H-1 \(SS-28\)](#) was lost on **12-Mar-1920** with the loss of **4 crew** when it Grounded, Magdalena Bay, Mexico, was sunk in 9 Fathoms while being towed off

[USS Perch \(SS-176\)](#) was scuttled on **3-Mar-1942** 30 Miles NW Soerabia, Java **60 crew were taken prisoner, 52 survived the war**

[USS Grampus \(SS-207\)](#) was lost on **5-Mar-1943** with the loss of **72 crew** when it was sunk in the Blackett Strait

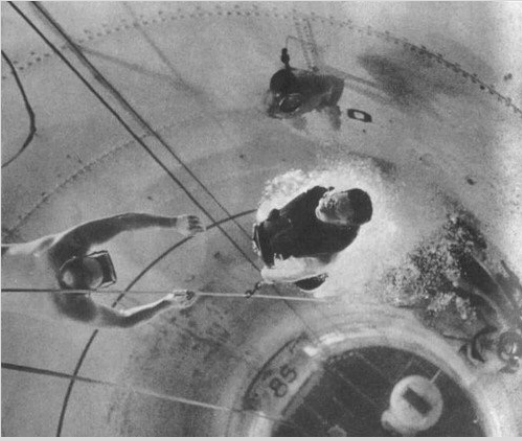
[USS Triton \(SS-201\)](#) was lost on **15-Mar-1943** with the loss of **74 crew** when it was sunk at 0° 09N; 144° 55E

[USS Tullibee \(SS-284\)](#) was lost on **26-Mar-1944** with the loss of **79 crew** when it was sunk in operating area just north of Palau. **(One man was taken prisoner and he survived the war)**

[USS Kete \(SS-369\)](#) was lost sometime on or after **20-Mar-1945** with the loss of **87 crew** when it was sunk somewhere between 29° 38N; 130° 02E and Midway.

[USS Trigger \(SS-237\)](#) was lost on **28-Mar-1945** with the loss of **91 crew** when it was sunk in area 32° 16N 30° 40N by 132° 05E-127° 50E

Memories



'Submarine Trail' Would Create 20 Sculptures to Celebrate

History of Submarines In Groton, Region

Deborah Straszheim, New London Day, Feb 18

GROTON — An art teacher wanted to create a “sub trail” as part of the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the first submarine to the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, and her idea has taken hold.

Teacher Joy Supples' plan was to have local artists create a “fleet” of submarine sculptures, similar to the “Whale Tail” art project in New London a few years ago.

About a dozen sponsors have come forward so far, pledging to pay for 13 of 20 planned submarine sculptures that would be unveiled at the Groton Fourth of July parade.

The 5-foot-by-4-foot fiberglass sculptures, which have been ordered, would be decorated by local artists and ultimately displayed at sponsor locations across southeastern Connecticut.

A sub trail computer application would guide visitors to each sculpture and offer information about the sub, sponsor and artist. Supples, a teacher at Ella T. Grasso Southeastern Technical High School, said she saw an opportunity to galvanize the community and celebrate the sub base's history through art.

“It could give us a unified sense of place and really, a visual reminder to be proud,” she said.

Sponsors pay \$5,000 per sub, and the project has secured \$65,000 in sponsorships, with one donor sponsoring two subs. Organizers hope to secure the remaining sponsorships by Feb. 29.

The Mashantucket-Pequot and Mohegan tribes are among the sponsors, said Groton City Mayor Marian Galbraith.

Once all 20 sculptures have a sponsor, Connecticut's Submarine Century would call on artists to submit design ideas to decorate the subs.

Sponsors then would be matched with the winning artists.

“I think that this is a wonderful opportunity for businesses throughout the community to show their support for the submarine base and how that has impacted their own business and the quality of life here in southeastern Connecticut,” said Tricia Walsh, president of the Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce and a member of Connecticut's Submarine Century executive committee.

“It will just be a great asset to get people excited and moving around and talking about the history of submarines in Groton,” she said. Galbraith said the sub trail offers another way to celebrate the region's connection to the sub base.

Visitors will be able to use the app to find a sub, take their picture with it and share the photo via Connecticut's Submarine Century's Facebook page and the tag #submarineproud.

“It will really highlight and heighten in a really fun way that relationship,” Galbraith said.

Proceeds from the CT Sub Trail will go to the USS Groton Sail Foundation.

The group plans to take custody of the sail, upper rudder and other parts of the USS Groton, which was decommissioned in 1997 and was the third submarine named for Groton.

The “sail” of a submarine is the tower-like portion that protrudes from the hull at the center of the ship. [^](#)