

Sirago Newsletter



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Reunion '11

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Shipmates,

I would like to encourage everyone who has expressed an interest in the 28 April – 1 May 2011 “SSSBS” (SubRon Six Smoke Boat Sisters) reunion to get their signup sheets in so that we can plan this reunion properly. There are two (2) signup sheets included in this newsletter – one for you to fill out and send us, and the other for you to fill out and keep as your record of what you signed up for and paid for. As of this moment, we have 328 crew members of SubRon Six diesel boats planning to attend and of those 328 crew members, I have received 43 signup sheets with checks (full or partial payment). That’s 13% and a good number to be at 11 months prior to the reunion. However... since we will be ordering the hats and shirts in the fall I’d like every one of you who “intend to attend” to please send in a signup sheet with at least “registration” fees plus any hat(s)/shirt(s) money so that I can get a better feel for that volume. Also... the more rooms that we book under our group name, the

less likely it will be that some other group will try to get in and load up the hotel. We want to basically own that hotel and so getting your signup sheet in (making a partial payment) and reserving your room will help us out.

Also remember that those “328 crew members” will be mainly bringing wives so we’ll not only own the hotel, but will have a major beach party. We all know the motto “Diesel Boats Forever” – aka DBF – and no stronger signal can be sent to SubLant and the existing SubRon Six about the importance of diesel boats in the past as well as their potential importance to the future than to have a good showing in VA Beach and maybe get written up in the local news as we did in Mobile in 2007 for our last SSSBS reunion. Don’t know if you guys have been aware of all the news over the past 2-3 years about the exercises involving those Swedish diesel boats on the “left coast” trying to penetrate our nuclear boat defenses... but the going hasn’t been really good as far as I know and those diesels have been giving our nukes a run for their money. Our surface vessels are pinging so hard to find those diesels that they are making whale ears bleed. Yes – I know the chances of civilians understanding the importance of what’s going on is practically nil, but all of us know the importance of our service and how we helped (immensely) during the “cold war”. Read Blind Man’s Bluff if you haven’t already. Anyway – it would be good to make a showing... a sea of diesel boat sailors descending on Virginia Beach... a sight to behold!

Here is the list of ALL crew members who are intending to attend from each of the boats (**only boats with 30 or more crew coming are shown**):

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The ones UNDERLINED have sent in their signup sheets:

USS SIRAGO (SS-485) (81):

Mark Adler, George Albert, Art Allum, Paul Anderson, Bill Bailey, Fred Baker(*), Clyde Beatty(*), Frank Berlingeri(*), Mike Bickel, Wayne Booton, Bruce Boughton, Audrey Boyer (H), Bill Browning, Charlie Bryant, Ray Bussard(*), Frank Campbell, Bill Clegg(*), Tim Cole(*), Pat Conroy, Dale Craig(*), Roger Dean, PG Dix(*), Larry Eakes, Bob Ewing, Tom Foglesong(*), Doug Fox(*), Art Fried, Frank George, Anthony Gilbert, David Glaser(*), Garry Goetschius, George Goodwin, Duane Gow(*), Ray Haley(*), David Hauer(*), Jerry Hauser, Joe Hoffmann, John Holmes, Frank Indoe(*), Bob Karge(*), Ken Koller(*), Tom Krug(*), Dennis Larson, Mel Laubach, John Ledbetter(*), John Lee, JD Mayo(*), Bob Mazurek, David McCallum, Rich McCamant, Larry McClintock, Jim McCullough, Art Michaelsen, Ira Nerzig(*), Tom O'Brien, Keith Owens, Ron Price, Willy Ramos(*), Dan Reilly(*), Joe Roche, Mike Rolow(*), Bob Rosen(*), Roy Scott(*), Dean Sedgwick(*), Rollin Shaffer, Buddy Shumake, Butch Sites, Ed Sowinski(*), Al Standish, Buck Steere, James Thompson, John Tumilty(*), Chuck Veir(*), Jim Ware, Frank Weltner(*), Carl Whisman, Steve Whitaker, Ralph Wiggins, Marshall Woods(*), Marv Yokum, Bob Zorn.

USS SEA LEOPARD (SS-483) (84):

Hal Anderson, Marty Arntzen(*), Jackson Atkinson(*), Stan Bartholomew, Chuck Berry(*), Joe Bonds, Bob Bovey, Babe Brogan, Dan Burke, Jay Butler(*), Larry Butler, Jose Cabrera, Bob Caldwell(*), John Carlsen, Bill Clegg(*), Jerry Clemons(*), Ed Covey, Dan Crovo, Jim Cunningham, Tom Cushman, Gene Dempsey, Donald Diggs, David Donovan, Jim Dunn(*), Dan Durham(*), Cecil Ellisor, Jim Ferro, Mike Finneran, Alan Fisk, Dick Forsythe, Kenneth Frederick(*), Lonnie Friar, Rod Friedmann, Milo Fuller, Tom Gibbs, David Glaser(*), Ray Haley(*), Lee Hebbard, Bill Heffernan, Martin Henderson, Al Higginbotham(*), Jerry Hooper, Jim Hubbard, Ellis Jordan, Kwock Kam, Paul Kidd, Chic Knight, John Kolata(*), Ken Koller(*), Tom Kromer, Dan Laemont, Robert LaLonde(*), Jim Latterell, Ralph Leonard, Hermy Maula, Jack Messersmith, Bob Musitano(*), Paul Nasso, Bob Osborne, Lonnie Perry, Fred Pester(*), Charles Powers, Bob Putzer(*), John Radens, Darrell Ramsden, C. S. Roberts, Steve Rogers, Brad Sike, Norman Snell(*), Phil Somerset, Ed Sowinski(*), John Stanford, Mike Swift, Lew Sykes(*), Dick Teas, Frank Verona(*), Ben Vessels, Lou Vozar, John Walker, Bob Walsh(*), Roger Welch, David Wilhoit, Dennis Woodrow(*), Ken Yaden.

USS GRAMPUS (SS-523) (54):

L. H. Anderson, David Bacigalupo, A.R. Baines, Fred Baker(*), Bill Beadle, John Beckett, Richard Breen, Woody Carmichael, Robert Chassel(*), Bob Clymer, Ron Duffy, Jim Dunn(*), Dan Durham(*), Joel Epstein(*), Bob Erdman, Bill Galanis, Mike Geesey, Russell Gillespie(*), Roy Hall(*), John Hedberg, Larry Huber, Walker Hughes, BO Huntley, Richard James, Doug Johnson, Ray Johnson, Ray Larson, Richard Lightle(*), Gene Lockwood(*), Jim Louden(*), Paul McGrath(*), Richard Mersiowsky, Frank Morgan, George Munoz, George Nault, Chuck Norris, Larry Oiler, Fred Pester(*), Frank Richard(*), William Roche, Warren Rucker, Jeff Sammel, Gil Shaddock, James Siorakes, Jim Stroud(*), Patterson Taylor(*), Paul Thompson, Troy Tignor(*), Bob Townsend(*), Joe Treffert(*), Gary Vernon(*), Wes Wesley(*), Ken Wiltshire, Allan Windle.

USS CUBERA (SS-347) (35):

Bill Arata(*), Clyde Beatty(*), Joe Bergwerk, Larry Cafarelli, Ed Childs, Robert Cloupe, Jerald Conklin(*), Greg Cotton(*), Carl Edensword, Zeke Ferrell, Gordon Gullikson, John Hansford, Steve Hough, John James(*), Wesley Johnson, Larry Jones(*), Jim Kennedy, Richard Lightle(*), David McCloy, Robert McGarry(*), Irwin Moiseff, Ira Monroe(*), James Morrow(*), Charles Murray, Gus Negus, Willy Ramos(*), Lou Simmons(*), Uel Smith, Herm Stolzenburg(*), Jim Stroud(*), Richard Tomac, Chuck Veir(*), Charlie Weaver(*), Wes Wesley(*), Marshall Woods(*).

USS REQUIN (SSR-481) (33):

Dex Armstrong, Ray Bussard(*), Dennis Cantwell, Tim Cantwell(*), Richard Dorff(*), Rick Fulton(*), Lawton Gaines, Bob Garlock(H), Gerry Girouard, Roy Hall(*), Jim Harris, Mike Hemming(*), Al Higginbotham(*), Charles Hilgendorf(*), Frank Indoe(*), Mike Kudsk, Robert LaLonde(*), Jim Louden(*), Ronnie Lowe, John Marsh, Doug

Nunnery, Devere Pyatte(*), **Arthur Rebman(*)**, Wayne Reedy(*), Alfred Regits, Ben Satterfield, Bob Schmidt, Ron Schram, Dick Simpson, Lew Sykes(*), Bob Vaughn, Frank Verona(*), Jake Wisenall(*)

There are more than the above folks coming and some boats are just getting their crew ramped up. We have 29 coming from Torsk for example and I expect that Argonaut and Cutlass to soon be above 30 crew members coming.

ETERNAL PATROL NOTICES

RON NICHOLS	QM1	52-53	Died 19 Oct 2009
FRANK SHROPE	CSC	47-47	Died 11 Nov 2009
DON BRUNNER	AMM3	47-47	Died 28 Dec 2009
BRUCE ANDERSON	SD2	51-53	Died 17 Dec 2009



At left is shown Bruce Anderson back when he was aboard the USS Sea Leopard just before coming aboard the USS Sirago. To the right of that is Bruce Anderson shown at Sirago Reunion '98.

Ron Nichols also served on the Argonaut and the Torsk.

Sailors.... rest your oar.

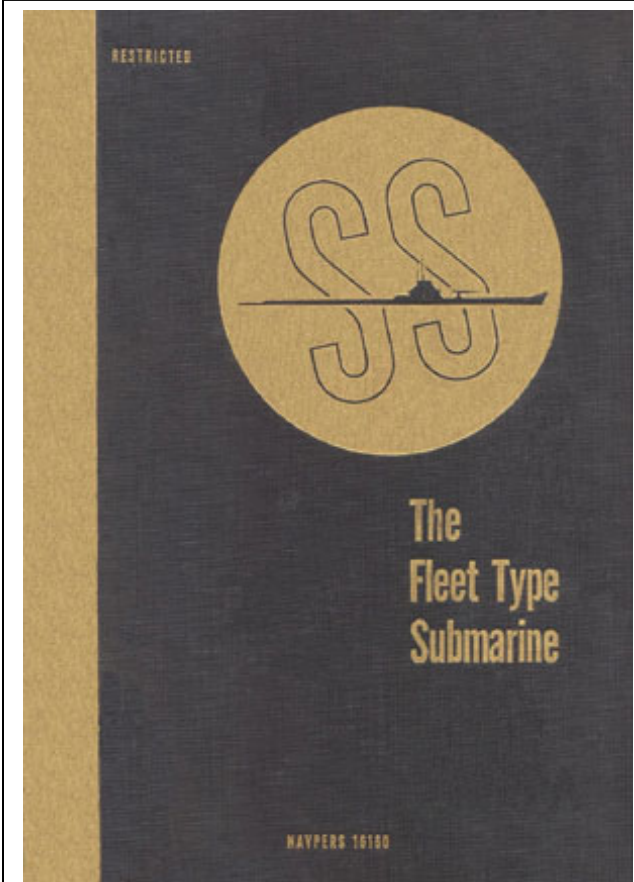
WEB SITE NOTICES

For all you emailers and web folks out there, I wanted to let you know that the Sirago.com website has been having some difficulties (and so has the SSSBS.org website) with having it hosted on a single PC. Hopefully sometime this summer I'll be taking it to an on-line site and reformatting it. For that reason, if you are a WEB recipient of this newsletter, then please take the time to print out the signup sheet (two times) so that you will have it to mail in for the SSSBS reunion. That's by going to the www.sirago.com site and then going to the Newsletter tab and then looking for the REUNION SIGNUP part.

Another notice I wanted to give you was that if you haven't had the time to look at it yet, you really SHOULD look at the Pampanito site which allows you to basically walk through that old diesel submarine and you can use your mouse to pan around and look left, right, up, and down and go from room to room and even into the lower engine room flats. If you are NOT an emailer / web person but your kids are, then take this newsletter to them and let THEM navigate while YOU tell them all about it. You'll love it. Here is the website address: http://www.nonplused.org/panos/uss_pampanito/html/01.html Just start at the above address and you will be in the Forward Torpedo Room.

Now here is another location you might want to investigate.... especially if you are thinking about coming to the reunion. This will get you in the Qual-Card mode:

<http://www.maritime.org/fleetsub/> (continued next page)



When you get to this particular website you will see this picture (at left) and then just scroll down and you will see an index and various chapters and sections. Just touch one of those pages and you can read directly out of this book.

It's all available for you out there in that dangerous world called the internet! But it's no more dangerous than being down in the deep ocean with nothing but WWII vintage steel between you and the crushing depths.

So... I'd encourage that you take the "tour" room-by-room of the Pampanito and then also thumb (virtually speaking) through the Fleet Type Submarine book and this will get those old brain cells stimulated. I'll bet after doing this (perhaps showing your grandchildren what YOU did as a "kid") you'll almost be able to smell the diesel oil, the sanitary tanks, the super strength coffee, and maybe even the salt spray.

Rich McCamant
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