

February 2025

CORVINA BASE NEWS



Operation Ice Camp 2024

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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.

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 Position open

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BOOSTER CLUB

John Malloy
 Terry Bolen
 Frank Ely
 Paul Young
 Dave Aunkst
 John Hulsey
 Danny McHugh
 Russ Hautzenrader



Kaps
 Booster Club

Shipmates on Eternal Patrol

2001

Harry Wellman CS1 (SS)

2002

Harry Sembagh EN3 (SS)

Stanley Blair ICC (SS)

2003

Melvin Phillips ET1 (SS)

2004

Boyd Tieslau TM3 (SS)

Russel Scofield TMCS (SS)

2005

Richard Burdette LT. (SS)

Robert Rich EN1 (SS)

Donald Campbell TM2 (SS)

Francis Signore CSC (SS)

2006

Harold Lister EN3 (SS)

2007

James Avitt RM1 (SS)

2008

Larry Garrelts ETCs(SS)

Melvin Schreckengost ET2

Charles H. Massie TM1 (SS)

2009

Wayne F. Garrett ET2 (SS)

Elvin L. Morrison FTC (SS)

Erick Bjorum CWO(SS)

2010

Norm Snyder EM1(SS)

Charles Hyman MM2(SS)

James T. Wright III

Gordon Lane RMC(SS)

2011

Edwin V. Schalbert TMC (SS)

2013

Chester E. MacDowell TMI (SS)

Gerald Stratton ENC(SS)

Jerry D. Noma MM2(SS)

Richard Ekenberg, ETC(SS)

Richard C. Barringer SOSN(SS)

2014

Lowell Wapelhorst MOMM2(SS)

Jack Quade SMSN(SS)

2015

Bert Skidmore YN2(SS)

Frank Kenyon EM3 (SS)

Walter Lewis IC1(SS)

Bob Heaps IC2 (SS)

2016

James Jordan TMSN (SS)

Herbert "Doc" L. Starmer. HMC (SS)

2017

Rudolph (Rudy) Massenzi

Don Brown FTGC(SS)

Joseph Casten EM3 (SS)

2018

Leonard (Lenny) Stefanelli QM1(SS)

Lionel Schmidt STS1(SS)

2019

Primo Quarisa EN3 (SS)

Dennis Wiley MMCM(MDV/SS/SW)

Raoul (Bill) Noland EM2(SS)

Taggart Rogers LT(SS)

Thomas Utley MM1(SS)

Delmar Schwichtnberg CWO3(SS)

2020

2021 Rod Friedline ST1(SS)

William G. Parsons RM1(SS)

Jack C. Ely QM2(SS)

Richard R. Dentino EM3(SS)

2021

Oscar Rambeau QM3(SS)

Dale Poe EMC (SS)

James L. Stuart MMC

Kenneth M. McCray EN1(SS)

James Weaver SK2

2022

Dan Fawcett

2023

L. David Craig ETC(SS)

Bob Lewis TMSN(SU)

James Gibson LCDR(SS)

Clyde Webber ETNSN(SS)

2024

Arthur C. Akerson LCDR(SS)

2025

Ted Hanson EWC(SS)



Commander's Log

Happy New Years!
We have new volunteers

Dave our wonderful treasurer for more years than I can count has been relieved by Bill Brehler. Bill was a former treasurer for another origination, so he comes in with experience with numbers.

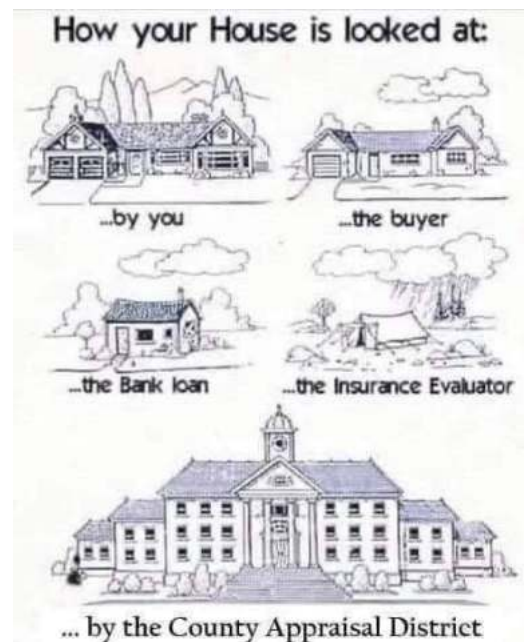
Dave has also turned over the task of lining up the Parades by Roy Johnson.

Eric has relieved Leif of setting up the Xmas luncheon. Leif will keep the picnic duties.

The 2027 convention volunteer group had a meeting with GSR (Sonia). She gave us a wonderful tour of all of the facilities that we will use for our 2027 National Convention.

RIP: Ted Hanson

Thanks
Danny





Secretary's Minutes



Minutes of Membership Meeting held 11 January 2025

14:00: Danny McHugh called the meeting of 18 members and 1 guest to order and asked all to silence their phones. Danny then instructed Paul Young to sound the klaxon. Chaplin Mark Smith gave the invocation. Danny led the Pledge of Allegiance and recited the USSVI creed. Paul played the tolling of boats lost in January on the A.V. Equipment, and Danny asked for a moment of silence.

November Meeting Minutes: No corrections to the meeting minutes from our last membership meeting were requested by those present.

Past Commander Report: Rick Johns advised the membership that the 2025 Veteran's Legislative Summit will be held Saturday, January 18th at the Northern Nevada State Veterans Home (NNSVH), 36 Battle Born Way, in Reno. Attendees can learn about the legislative process, voice their concerns, and prioritize proposals important to the Veteran Community. Registration to the event is available on the NDVS Website.

[Register Now for the 2025 Veterans Legislative Summit - Nevada Department of Veterans Services](#)

Danny took a moment to also add that Corvina Base will be presenting the "Pride Runs Deep" award for 2024 AND 2025 to members of the NJROTC at Damonte Ranch High School on April 25th. <https://www.washoeschools.net/Page/15799>

XO Report: John Hulsey has nothing to report.

Secretary Report: [Eric Meagher has nothing to report.](#)

Treasurer Report: Dave Aunkst advised the membership of the balances in our accounts. Our revenues and

expenses for 2024 were in line with what was expected. Our latest expenses were for base insurance and a sponsorship for the Western Regional Roundup. Rick added that a proposal has been made that in the future insurance payments to national may be on a pro rata basis; that is, local bases with larger memberships will pay a larger contribution with bases with smaller memberships will pay a smaller share. Dave also reported that 7 members of Corvina Base have yet to renew their dues and may be purged at the end of the month. Lastly, it was announced that Dave will be turning over Treasurer duties to Bill Brehler soon.

Chaplain Report: Mark Smith announced that the next Lunch Bunch will be held this Friday, the 17th at 11:30 am. We will meet at the Brass Tap, 1171 Steamboat Parkway # 120, in Reno. <https://www.brasstapbeerbar.com/reno>

COB Report: Paul Young relayed the news that we have been robbed. It appears that the Potato Barn, where our float is kept has been broken into. Our submarine model under plexiglass is gone. The bell on top of the float is still there. Paul will return to the barn and install new hardware on the door and lubricate the lock. Rick reminded Paul to also check that the inverter used for operating the klaxon on the float is still there.

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) Report: Dan Delorey is still meeting rejection to Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) visits by the local hospitals. He is looking for another Corvina member to take over the program with the aim of a fresh approach to restarting the program.

AdHoc/Recruiter Report: John Hulsey mentioned the Legislative Summit again and encourages the membership to participate. There is nothing new to report on the recruiting front.

P.O.C./Events Report: Leif Larsen reported that our base picnic in September will be similar to last year.

Leif mentioned the poor attendance at the annual Christmas Luncheon held at the Nugget in Sparks and extra cost to the base because of it. The membership generally agreed that for the annual event to be viable more attendance is needed. Danny asked for a show of hands of those who would attend the lunch in December. A 2nd show of hands also was counted for anyone who planned to bring a guest. The number of total prospective attendees was 25. A vote was taken as to whether we should hold a Christmas Luncheon at all. The membership voted YES, with a count of 17 yeas and 1 nay. Leif is turning over the reins of organizing the luncheon to Eric Meagher. Eric and John Holtzer will explore any alternative venues in the next couple of weeks, Leif also gave Eric the contact info for the Nugget in Sparks. https://www.cnty.com/nugget/?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjAgJa6BhCOARIsAMiL7V_8C7zGpzxqIGyzwsPuZR1fBVq56ue_UT76elft2VhPlkFiXb7IRWQaAvOREALw_wcB

Danny reminded the membership that our next parade will be the 4th of July in Virginia City. Dave added that reservations are not yet being taken. A new Parade coordinator is being sought among the Corvina Base Membership. <https://visitvirginiacitynv.com/parades/>

New Business:

2027 USSVI National Convention: The convention committee will hold their 1st meeting on January 23rd at the venue, the Grand Sierra Resort. There will be a tour of the facilities followed by a couple of items of business. It is not expected there will be much to do for the committee until a bank account is established later this year. The committee members are:

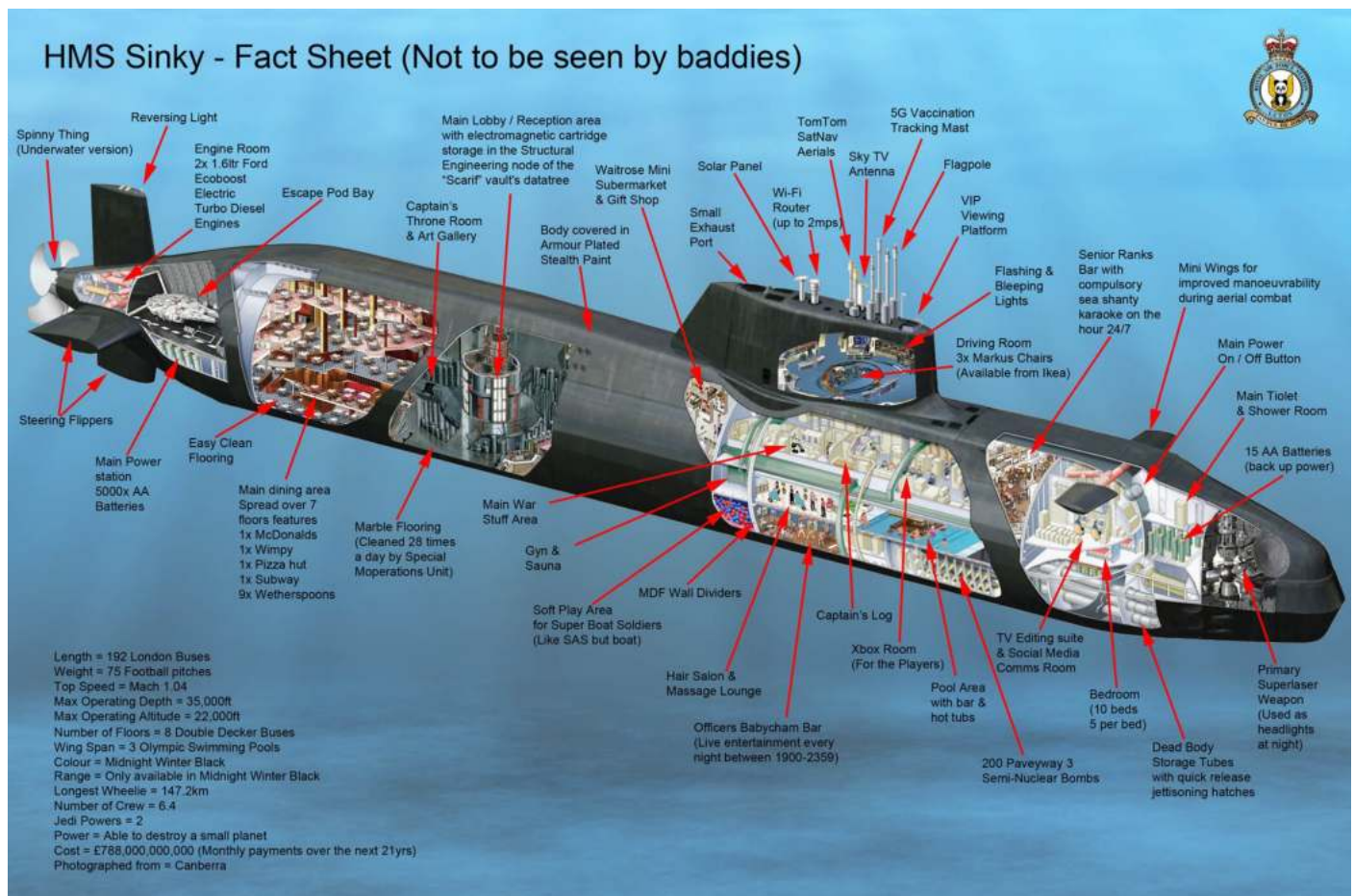
Eric Meagher Ted Fanning John Hulsey Paul Young Frank Ely Bill Brehler
Dany McHugh Dan Delorey Rick Johns John Holtzer Roy Johnson Norm Peterson

Break: The meeting took a 10-minute break and afterwards our customary raffle was held in accordance with [Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 462 section 130.](#)

For the Good of the Organization:

Birds of Prey: Frank Ely would like the membership to know that the California Hawking Club will be holding their annual Field Meet, January 15 thru 18, at the Topaz Lodge and RV Park. There will be over 150 Birds of Prey to see and is interesting for adults and children. <https://topazlodge.com>
https://www.facebook.com/events/465207736612494?context=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%7B%22surface%22%3A%22external_search_engine%22%7D%2C%7B%22mechanism%22%3A%22attachment%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22newsfeed%22%7D%2C%22ref_notif_type%22%3Anull%7D
https://www.calhawkingclub.org/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZWQCMATAAR0kKuZ03opEDIUcnegNw6Ojtg0NtRis4EA6zSLpLZyA5YdWtj_EU1_nlu8_aem_R0iXa0VRCWc_3IOwfAGOLw

1446:Mark gave the benediction, Danny instructed Ted Fanning, acting as prospective COB to sound the Klaxon, then Danny adjourned the meeting, reminding all to pay their Denny's bill.



Danny will not admit it, but I think was his last duty boat.



Treasurer's Report

1. All account balances are available at the Base Meetings.

2. Deposits for January:

Base Meeting Raffle \$	118.00
USSVI/Base Dues	140.00
Booster Club	147.00
Carl Inman Dues	40.00
Mark Rudes Dues	235.00
Matthew Howell Dues	50.00

3. Checks issued in January:

USPS/ DK Postage	73.00
USSVI CF/ WRR Donation 2025	50.00
USSVI Dues Payments	120.00
USSVI Dues Payments	265.00

Lost Boats in February

[USS Shark \(SS-174\)](#)

lost on **11-Feb-1942** with the loss of **59 crew** when it was sunk East of Manado, Celebes

[USS Amberjack \(SS-219\)](#)

lost on **16-Feb-1943** with the loss of **72 crew** when it was sunk off Rabaul

[USS Scorpion \(SS-278\)](#)

lost on **1-Feb-1944** with the loss of **77 crew** when it was sunk East China Sea

[USS Grayback \(SS-208\)](#)

lost on **26-Feb-1944** with the loss of **80 crew** when it was sunk near 25° 47N 128° 45E

[USS Trout \(SS-202\)](#)

lost on or after **29-Feb-1944** with the loss of **79 crew** when it was sunk near 22° 40N; 131° 45 E

[USS Barbel \(SS-316\)](#)

lost on or after **4-Feb-1945** with the loss of **81 crew** when it was sunk in southern entrance to Palawan Passage



Corn from the COB

Bible Scholars Believe Noah Made Over 977 Trips To Home Depot During Ark Construction



**Submariner
Medical Alert bracelet**



NAVY LAUNCHES OPERATION ICE CAMP 2024 IN THE ARCTIC OCEAN

BEAUFORT SEA, Arctic Circle -- ICE CAMP 2024 is a three-week operation designed to research, test and evaluate operational capabilities in the Arctic region. In addition to U.S. Navy, Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Space Force participation in the exercise, personnel from the Royal Canadian Air Force, Royal Canadian Navy, the French Navy, the United Kingdom Royal Navy and the Royal Australian Navy are participating.

Previously known as Ice Exercise (ICEX), the operation partners with the Arctic Submarine Laboratory and was elevated to an operation to better reflect the Navy's priority in the Arctic region. ICE CAMP will meet national security objectives, as outlined in the Department of Defense and the Department of the Navy Arctic Strategy, to maintain an enhanced Arctic presence, strengthen alliances and partnerships, and build a more capable Arctic naval force. The first iteration of this event took place in 1946.



"Our Joint Force's ability to operate in all domains, to include the Arctic, is vital to our national security. For over 70 years our Submarine Force has been operating in the Arctic Ocean, facilitating research and developing the operational flexibility to deter and respond to crises anywhere," said Rear Adm. Andrew Miller, commander, Undersea Warfighting Development Center. "Collaborating with our allies and partners in the most extreme of environments allows us to strengthen cooperative partnerships and maintain our enhanced global presence."

The Navy's Arctic Submarine Laboratory (ASL) is a Fleet Support Detachment of commander, Undersea Warfighting Development Center (UWDC). ASL, based in San Diego, is the "Center of Excellence" for Arctic matters for the U.S. submarine force. ASL serves as the lead organization for coordinating, planning and executing the operation involving representatives from five nations and more than 200 participants over the five weeks of operations. The Arctic is experiencing a trend of diminishing sea ice extent and thickness creating the likelihood of increased maritime activity in the region, including trans-oceanic shipping and resource extraction.

"Ice Camp Whale provides our teams the opportunity to conduct their research in one of the harshest and most demanding environments in the world," said Howard Reese, director, Arctic Submarine Laboratory. "We are responsible for developing and maintaining the expertise to allow the Submarine Force to safely and effectively operate in this unique environment. We are able to take what we learn from this environment and apply the lessons to real world operations."



The camp, named Ice Camp Whale, will serve as a temporary command center for conducting operations and research in the Arctic region. The camp is temporary and is established on a sheet of ice in the Arctic Ocean, known as an ice floe, to support testing submarine systems and other Arctic research initiatives. The camp consists of shelters, a command center, and infrastructure to safely house and support more than 60 personnel at any one time.

"ICE CAMP really is one of our squadron's bread and butter exercises, it's a stellar opportunity for us to apply our ski-flying training and highlight how unique 440 Squadron's capabilities are within the Royal Canadian Air Force," said Royal Canadian Air Force Pilot Capt. Graham Neely. Neely is the Operations Officer from 440 (T) Squadron out of Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada flying the CC-138 Twin Otter supporting ICE CAMP.

"It's been quite refreshing to be involved in such a well-oiled military operation as ICE CAMP," Neely emphasized. "Our crew is having nothing short of a great time here - the flying is fantastic, the weather is crisp, the atmosphere is great, and morale is high. We're stoked to be part of this starting lineup and doing what we can to contribute to the team!"

The camp gets its namesake from the USS Whale (SSN 637), a Sturgeon-class nuclear-powered attack submarine that was commissioned on Oct. 12, 1968 and the third submarine to reach the North Pole when it surfaced there on April 6, 1969. Submarines have conducted under-ice operations in the Arctic regions in support of inter-fleet transit, training, cooperative allied engagements and operations for more than 60 years. USS Nautilus (SSN 571) made the first transit in 1958. USS Skate (SSN 578) was the first U.S. submarine to surface through Arctic ice at the North Pole in March of 1959.

Since those events, the U.S. Submarine Force has completed 98 Ice Exercises – ICE CAMP 2024 is the 99th - the last being conducted in 2022. This year's iteration has been elevated to an operation to better reflect the Navy's priority in the Arctic region.

“ICE CAMP provides the necessary training to maintain a working knowledge of a constantly evolving region where navigating, communicating, and maneuvering in an Arctic setting in which the acoustics, sea life, salinity, and ice keels present a very challenging maritime environment,” stated Adm. Daryl Caudle, commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command and naval component commander, U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Strategic Command. “While we will continue to seek peace in the Arctic, history always demonstrates that peace comes through strength. ICE CAMP and other Joint and International evolutions will help sustain our Navy's continued proficiency in the Arctic while maintaining an enhanced presence, strengthening cooperative partnerships and building a more capable Arctic force.”

U.S. Submarine Forces execute the Department of the Navy's mission in and from the undersea domain. In addition to lending added capacity to naval forces, Submarine Forces, in particular, are expected to leverage those special advantages that come with undersea concealment to permit operational, deterrent and combat effects that the Navy and the Nation could not otherwise achieve.

U.S. Submarine Forces and supporting organizations constitute the primary undersea arm of the Navy. Submarines and their crews remain the tip of the undersea spear.

Submarines Under Ice (1950s-1960s)

In 1930, Sir Hubert Wilkins acquired the submarine O-12 from the US Navy. He outfitted her and renamed her *Nautilus*, and prepared an undersea expedition to the North Pole. The leader of the scientific staff was Harald U. Sverdrup, who was to make measurements from a specially rigged diving compartment. The submarine headed north into the pack ice north of Spitsbergen in August 1931, but when the diving plane became damaged, the submarine could no longer cruise very far under the ice, and was relegated to making oceanographic observations outside of the ice pack. However, the *Nautilus* did make several short runs under ice, indicating that submarines could feasibility operate in and under the ice pack.



Fifteen years after Wilkin's expedition, in 1946, the Navy organized an expedition of the Kane Basin, codenamed Operation Nanook. A specially outfitted submarine, the *Atule*, was to carry out submarine operations under the ice in Baffin Bay and to the north. The next year, with better ice sounding technology, submarine operations were also conducted under the ice in Bering Strait. In 1952, the *Redfish* joined the icebreaker *Burton Island* and reached McClure Strait, and the following year, with the *Northwind*, retraced the route part of the way. Up to this point, the submarines operating in the Arctic were mostly traveling among the ice floes, rather than below the ice pack.



The world's first nuclear submarine was also called the *Nautilus*, and was built in 1952. On its third try, it attained the North Pole (but did not surface) in summer 1958, while crossing the Arctic from the Bering to Fram Strait in 96 hours. The same year, the nuclear powered submarine *Skate* visited drifting ice station Alpha, and six months later became the first vessel to surface at the Pole. The Soviets arrived in 1962 on the *Leninski Komsomolets*, and the British made the crossing on the *Dreadnought* in 1971.

GARDEN SNAKES CAN BE DANGEROUS...I NEVER KNEW THIS!

Snakes also known as Garter Snakes (*Thamnophis sirtalis*) can be dangerous. Yes, grass snakes, not rattlesnakes. Here's why.

A couple in Sweetwater, Texas, had a lot of potted plants. During a recent cold spell, the wife was bringing a lot of them indoors to protect them from a possible freeze.

It turned out that a little green garden grass snake was hidden in one of the plants. When it had warmed up, it slithered out and the wife saw it go under the sofa.

She let out a very loud scream.

The husband (who was taking a shower) ran out into the living room naked to see what the problem was. She told him there was a snake under the sofa.

He got down on the floor on his hands and knees to look for it.

About that time the family dog came and cold-nosed him on the behind. He thought the snake had bitten him, so he screamed and fell over on the floor.

His wife thought he had had a heart attack, so she covered him up, told him to lie still and called an ambulance.

The attendants rushed in, would not listen to his protests, loaded him on the stretcher, and started carrying him out.

About that time, the snake came out from under the sofa and the Emergency Medical Technician saw it and dropped his end of the stretcher. That's when the man broke his leg and why he is still in the hospital.

The wife still had the problem of the snake in the house, so she called on a neighbor who volunteered to capture the snake. He armed himself with a rolled-up newspaper and began poking under the couch.. Soon he decided it was gone and told the woman, who sat down on the sofa in relief.

But while relaxing, her hand dangled in between the cushions, where she felt the snake wriggling around. She screamed and fainted, the snake rushed back under the sofa.

The neighbor man, seeing her lying there passed out, tried to use CPR to revive her.

The neighbor's wife, who had just returned from shopping at the grocery store, saw her husband's mouth on the woman's mouth and slammed her husband in the back of the head with a bag of canned goods, knocking him out and cutting his scalp to a point where it needed stitches.

The noise woke the woman from her dead faint and she saw her neighbor lying on the floor with his wife bending over him, so she assumed that the snake had bitten him. She went to the kitchen and got a small bottle of whiskey, and began pouring it down the man's throat.

By now, the police had arrived.

Breathe here...

They saw the unconscious man, smelled the whiskey, and assumed that a drunken fight had occurred. They were about to arrest them all, when the women tried to explain how it all happened over a little garden snake!

The police called an ambulance, which took away the neighbor and his sobbing wife.

Now, the little snake again crawled out from under the sofa and one of the policemen drew his gun and fired at it. He missed the snake and hit the leg of the end table. The table fell over, the lamp on it shattered and, as the bulb broke, it started a fire in the drapes.

The other policeman tried to beat out the flames, and fell through the window into the yard on top of the family dog who, startled, jumped out and raced into the street, where an oncoming car swerved to avoid it and smashed into the parked police car.

Meanwhile, neighbors saw the burning drapes and called in the fire department. The firemen had started raising the fire ladder when they were halfway down the street. The rising ladder tore out the overhead wires, put out the power, and disconnected the telephones in a ten-square city block area (but they did get the house fire out).

Time passed! Both men were discharged from the hospital, the house was repaired, the dog came home, the police acquired a new car and all was right with their world.

A while later they were watching TV and the weatherman announced a cold snap for that night. The wife asked her husband if he thought they should bring in their plants for the night.

And that's when he shot her.

