

TRIESTE BASE MEMBER DONATES TO CAVALLA.



By Bob Cox

On the morning of September 13, 2008, the eye of Hurricane Ike approached the Texas coast near Galveston Bay, making landfall at 2:10 a.m. CDT over the east end of Galveston Island. Ike was the third costliest U.S. hurricane of all time. In its path on the Eastern shores of Pelican Island was Seawolf Park, a memorial to the USS Seawolf (SS-197) and home to the WWII Gato

Todd Miller of Trieste Base
Class submarine USS Cavalla (SS-244).

The powerful storm surge moved Cavalla from its earthen trench berth and nearly destroyed the entire park. In the aftermath of Ike the Cavalla Historical Foundation went out with a call for support to restore Seawolf Park to its original condition.

Todd Miller, Trieste Base Secretary in Riverside County, California heard this call for assistance and contacted the museum to see what support he could render. Miller asked for specifics as to what type supplies they needed. "They gave me a wish list of grinders, grinder blades, safety equipment, etc. I told them not to be shy and give me a list of everything. I donated (materials) on behalf of the Trieste Base at least one



Cavalla, after the storm

of everything they asked for. I sent them a 4" and 7" Bosch Grinder, several cases of blades for various types of grinding and cutting on metal, safety glasses, hard hats, etc."

The museum was grateful to receive this donation and put the supplies to good use. Miller continues, "I know this sounds minor and I did not build it up, but I did what I could to help a boat in need. The total retail was over \$800. I ended up sending 4 14x14 boxes crammed full of goodies."

Reflecting on what it means to be submariner and member of USSVI Todd Miller had this to say, "I think that as a group USSVI is probably the best organization out there. The camaraderie of everyone that shares the "SS" designation is valuable and anything to perpetuate the memories and fellowship is something that we all should hold dear. It was just a small gift that I could give back to a great cause."

Todd Miller earned his dolphins on USS Tinosa (SSN-606) in 1990.

Trieste Base currently has 26 members and is located in Murrieta, California. The base can be contacted via their website at www.triestebase.org

The Cavalla Historical Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and all donations are tax deductible. Make out your check to Cavalla Historical Foundation and send to Raynor & Associates
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