

**New Mtg. Venue!**  
**Glory Days Restaurant**  
 (See Details Inside!)

# THE PERISCOPE

A monthly publication of the Los Angeles/Pasadena Base • United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.



Volume 18, Number 8 • August 2022



**PRIDE RUNS DEEP**



*"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of 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."*

**What's Inside**

Commander's Message	2
General Meeting Minutes	3
Connecticut Crashes Twice	4
Tolling of the Boats	6
New Orca Robotic Sub	9
Dex Armstrong	11
What Sets Submariners Apart?	12
Chapter News	18
Upcoming Events Calendar	21
E-Board Meeting Minutes	22
USS Oregon Commissioned	23
USSVI Update Bulletins	24

**Editor's Corner**

Welcome to the final issue of the *Periscope* to contain reprints of all that email you're already receiving separately anyway. A little research has shown only three of 100+ base members still don't have email accounts. They'll continue to get their *Periscopes* snailmailed to them of course, only now without the printed email that rarely if ever pertains to them anyway. All important base news will still be in Dave's comments and the meeting Minutes, and *everybody* still gets those. Next time, a leaner, meaner *Periscope!* ;-) —Jeff

## Keel Laid for Brand New Nuclear Ballistic Missile Submarine *District of Columbia*

*(Reproduced from the USNI News website - originally published June 4, 2022.)*

by John Grady



*Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.) approves the welding of her initials onto a metal plate at a ceremony at the General Dynamics Electric Boat Facility at Quonset Point, Rhode Island, on June 4, 2022. (EB photo.)*

**A**fter inspecting the engraved plate with her welded initials, Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.) declared the keel laid for the future USS *District of Columbia* (SSBN-826).

The ceremony marks the ceremonial construction start of the first in a new class of ballistic missile submarine that's expected to commission in 2027.

"Though this is not the first time a U.S. Navy vessel has been named *Columbia*, this is the first time that the name has been used to specifically commemorate the District of Columbia. The *Columbia* class will be the largest, most capable and most advanced submarine produced by

*(continued on page 7)*



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## From the Wardroom...



Dave Vanderveen,  
Base Commander

Shipmates and Ladies,

The saga continues regarding our situation with the Navy. We held our regular monthly meeting for July at Bunker 33 on the Weapons Station but learned at the beginning of that week that we could not conduct our Annual White Elephant Auction. DoD perceives that to be fundraising which is prohibited on a federal installation. As the dozen or so attendees discussed business, we also concluded that the rough ground around Bunker 33 (undulating lawn perforated by a LOT of gopher holes) is hard for some of our less-mobile folks to navigate safely. Add to that the continuing confusion surrounding access passes, and we decided we would meet somewhere else in August.



(Photo by Mike Swanson.)

Please join us for our Hawaiian-themed August meeting on Saturday, August 20th at Glory Days Sports Bar & Grill, 620 Pacific Coast Highway in Seal Beach, 90740. It is just south of 5th Street with lots of convenient parking. Please begin gathering at 11:00 a.m.; the Board Meeting will be held first at 10:00 a.m., then we'll all enjoy lunch and hold the General Meeting. Your beverage and restaurant tab will be your own, of course.

I hope to have met with Captain O'Hara and her facilities staff prior to the meeting so we will have a better idea of our long-term prospects for use of Navy property. We need to decide as an organization what we will do for meetings and what we will ultimately do with our tools/supplies/memorabilia currently in expensive commercial storage. Understanding the Navy's plan must come first and from that we can build our own plan and make decisions.

Our participation in the Independence Day Parade in Huntington Beach was a boatload of fun! (See photos starting on page 18.—ed.) Between our Base and Bonefish Base we had a reasonable turnout. The crowd of spectators was big and enthusiastic and weather was comfortable. We were presented with the American Patriotism Award early in the day and two Scouts carried a banner identifying it ahead of us. We were also presented with a nice trophy. Of course, the Bonefish guys are convinced their trailer-mounted model of SS-223 is the reason we won, so I suggested they display the trophy at their July meeting, and we will display it this month. Altogether, we had a good time and it was so pleasant to see happy people enjoying themselves and honoring one of the most important events in our history (our Declaration of Independence) and the holiday which celebrates it.

Though we are resuming "normal" activities, it is important to remember COVID is still with us. Four of our shipmates (plus their family members) have tested positive for the virus in the past couple of months. Fortunately, their cases have been mild to moderate and all have recovered nicely, but please recall that our demographic is at-risk for complications beyond the virus. Life is short as it is, so please protect yourselves so you can enjoy as many years as possible!

*Dave*

Dave Vanderveen, Commander  
Los Angeles-Pasadena Base



## Minutes of July 16, 2022 General Meeting

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the General Meeting of the L.A.-Pasadena Base to order at the Bunker 33 Picnic Area of the NWSSB at 2020 hours. There being no Colors handy, the Pledge was respectfully skipped on this occasion, but Dave still requested a moment of silence for our departed shipmates.

### Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Mike Swanson reported that transfer of our banking from Wells Fargo to Pacific Premier Bank is complete, including receipt of a check from Wells for \$.10 interest earned. It was reported that the E-Board reviewed and accepted the Treasurer's Report into the Base record. Its specific breakdown appears in the E-Board Meeting Minutes as usual.

### General Discussion:

Dave explained to the members present that the Board had committed in March to contract for off-Station storage of our tools/supplies/memorabilia when we had to vacate Building 6. That expenditure was projected over two years while NWSSB renovates buildings. We recognized that because the two-year expenditure of approximately \$5,400 exceeds 10% of our current treasury, our Base By-Laws require approval by two-thirds of members present at a General Meeting. Dave explained the steps our leadership is taking with NWSSB Command to determine the timeline and the Command's willingness to have us occupy Station facilities so we will know how long our storage commitment will be and what it will cost. If we cannot get a commitment from the Navy, we will reduce the amount of material we have stored, reducing the cost. Dave moved to approve the projected two-year expenditure of \$5,400. This was seconded by Sam Higa. After some discussion, the vote to approve the expenditure was unanimous among the eleven members present.

### Memorial Report:

In Memorial Director Dennis Bott's absence, Dave reported that the Aleppo Pine at the entry walkway has been diagnosed by Gruet's Tree Service to have a root disease, which is aggravated by overwatering. Paul Riggs advised that the cost to remediate is prohibitively high so Gruet recommends removal and replacement. Separately, NWSSB Public Works has been requested to identify and remedy the overwatering problem which is likely a broken irrigation tube. Once that has been done, further action will be decided for the tree. Additionally, Seal Beach Lions Club has advised us their fundraising for renovation of the WWII Submarine Memorial exceeded their need for the project, so they have decided to perform semi-annual cleaning and touch-up of the grounds, including application of protective wax to the monument plaques. Their generosity is gratefully accepted!

### USS *Phoenix* Project:

Dave outlined a proposal by base member Michael Williamson to assist with the USS *Phoenix* project to establish a Memorial in the City of Phoenix. The project team has acquired 65 tons of parts and materials from the Navy after recycling was completed on the ex-*Phoenix* (SSN-702), and it will become core components of

*(concluded on next page)*



## July General Meeting Sailing List

Herb "Bo" Bolton  
Sue Bolton  
Darin Detwiler  
Ken Dorn & Paula Jehnings  
Sam Higa  
Joe Koch  
Jeff Porteous  
Mike Swanson  
Ray Teare  
Dave Vanderveen  
Ron Wagner  
Stan Westrick





## Sub That Crashed Into Underwater Mountain Hit Pier Months Earlier...

(Reproduced from the Military & Defense website; published 5/24/22.)

by Ryan Pickrell

U.S. Navy sub USS *Connecticut* ran into an underwater mountain in the So. China Sea last October. Months earlier, in April 2021, she also struck a pier in San Diego. The command investigation said the submarine's leadership failed to learn from the first incident.

The grounding of the powerful *Seawolf*-class submarine USS *Connecticut*, which saw eleven sailors injured, was the result of a number of failings, the newly released investigation found.

"No single action or inaction caused this mishap, but it was preventable," said the report. But this was not the first time the sub had run into something. In April 2021, *Connecticut* had also collided with a pier while mooring at Naval Base Point Loma, the investigation said. The officers later identified as responsible were counseled on the need to correct problems leading to the incident. The boat was then cleared for deployment.

The report noted that the April 2021 "mishap resulted from multiple errors and omissions by the navigation team, failure of the OOD to take decisive action upon recognizing danger, and lack of CO involvement."

In November 2021, the Navy removed the entire command leadership of the *Connecticut* due to a loss of confidence in their abilities. A 7th Fleet statement said that "sound judgement, prudent decision-making and adherence to required procedures" could have prevented the grounding in the Indo-Pacific.

## General Meeting Minutes...

(concluded from previous page)

the new Memorial. After some discussion regarding our Base finances and commitments, Sam Higa moved that L.A.-Pasadena Base donate \$100 to the project. This was seconded by Mike Swanson and passed by voice vote. Dave will also pass the project information on to Jeff for consideration as part of the next issue of the *Periscope*. Additionally, the project information will be forwarded to members by email so they can consider personal donations to the effort.

### Website Promo Request:

Mike discussed a request the base had received to add an announcement regarding veterans' training to our SoCal SubVets website. After some conversation, we recognized that we receive so many of these requests which seem beneficial to veterans, but that we would unnecessarily clutter our website if we added such information. Dave will advise the agency which made the request that we respectfully decline.

### Continued Base Access Difficulties:

Dave related the latest difficulty raised by Base Security regarding L.A.-Pasadena member access, and denial of our request to hold our annual "white elephant" auction. Further concern was raised about less-mobile members trying to traverse the rough ground at Bunker 33. Consequently, we have decided to hold our August 20th meeting at Glory Days, a restaurant at 620 Pacific Coast Highway, Seal Beach 90740. The Board Meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the General Meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. An announcement will be placed in the *Periscope* acknowledging that difficulty accessing the base and Bunker 33 have kept members away and urging folks to consider resuming attendance at meetings in a more convenient and safer venue. Further discussion was related to the inconvenience our base leaders find in dealing with Command staff on NWSSB and the uncertainty surrounding our long-term relationship with NWSSB. (See discussion above related to expenditure for storage.)

### The Good of the Order:

Stan Westrick asked for advice about navigating the Veterans Administration's benefits qualification process. Ron Wagner offered suggestions and contact information for the Santa Ana VA facility.

There being no further suggestions for Good of the Order, Joe Koch moved to adjourn, Dave seconded, and it was passed by all present, ending the meeting at 1000 hours.

Dave thanked guests Sue Bolton and Paula Jehnings for attending, and Stan Westrick and Ken Dorn for their extra efforts to be with us.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dave Vanderveen*

Commander, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI

Filling in for Bill Moak, Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVII

**Aug. Meeting at  
Glory Days Restaurant**

**August Meeting**

**Date:** Aug. 20, 2022

As we once more leave the NWSSB's access issues behind, we announce a new location for our next gathering: Board Mtg. begins at 10:00 a.m. and the General Mtg. at 11:00 a.m.

Sure hope to see you there!

**Glory Days Beachside Grill**  
620 Pacific Coast Hwy.  
Seal Beach, CA 90740  
562-594-3800



**Aug. Birthdays**

We hereby extend the happiest of wishes to all our L.A.-Pasadena Base birthday celebrants.

- John Von Ulmen..... 8/4
- Ramon O. Aguilar ..... 8/9
- Jack Mahan..... 8/11
- Dennis Walsh..... 8/23
- Sam Aboulafia ..... 8/25
- Harold Staggs ..... 8/26
- Stan Westrick..... 8/29



**Hey Kids!**

**Are You Tired of...**

- Security Screenings? • Filling Out Forms?
- Picking up Day Passes? • Advance RSVPs?
- Long Walks to the Restroom?
- A Minefield of **GOPHER HOLES?! We Are Too!**

Put that NWSSB red tape and access trouble behind you and **COME BACK** to L.A.-Pasadena subvet meetings as they were meant to be! Yes, **FOOD, FUN** and **FELLOWSHIP** return to the menu as we take over the patio of the Glory Days Beachside Grill in Seal Beach for our August soiré (details at left). If we like it, maybe we'll stay: a new HQ! If not, well, we've been kicked outta better places than this, haven't we, boys? Now your families can join you again at our meetings —no questions asked—if they'll be seen with you, that is! Convenience is king once more, safety reigns supreme, and fun and sea stories rule the roost! Come back, won't you?

LOS ANGELES - PASADENA BASE

**2022 FLOWER FUND and BOOSTER CLUB**

A special thank you to the following folks whose generous contributions this year have helped make our Base activities and charitable functions possible:

- Joe Dow • Ken Dorn • Harold Staggs
- Mike Varalyai (RIP)



Booster Club and Flower Fund donations are welcome in any amount and are often also popular with 50/50 Drawing winners at our Base meetings. Contributions can be made in cash or by check payable to L.A.-Pasadena Base of USSVI. Checks may also be sent to Mike Swanson at 1149 W. Santa Cruz Street, San Pedro, CA 90731. To ensure proper credit, be sure to indicate Booster Club or Flower Fund on your check.

# UNITED STATES SUBMARINE FORCE LOSSES ON ETERNAL PATROL

*“I can assure you that they went down fighting and that their brothers who survived them took a grim toll of our savage enemy to avenge their deaths.”*

— Vice Admiral Charles A. Lockwood, USN

## AUGUST TOLLING OF THE BOATS



### USS BULLHEAD (SS-332)

Lost on August 6, 1945 in the Lombok Strait during her third war patrol, *Bullhead* was sunk by a depth charge dropped from a Japanese army aircraft. She was the last U.S. submarine lost during WWII. Eighty-four officers and crew went down with her.



### USS FLIER (SS-250)

Lost on August 13, 1944 during her second war patrol. *Flier* had been transiting on the surface when she was rocked by a large explosion—probably a mine—and the ocean closed over her in less than a minute. Thirteen survivors, some injured, made it into the water to swim ashore. Eight survived, and six days later, friendly natives guided them to a coastwatcher who arranged for their safe evacuation by the USS *Redfin* (SS-272). Seventy-eight of *Flier*'s total complement were lost.



### USS S-39 (SS-144)

Lost on August 14, 1942 after grounding on a reef south of Rossel Island in the southwestern Pacific during her third war patrol. Her entire crew was able to get off the boat for rescue by the HMAS *Katoomba*.



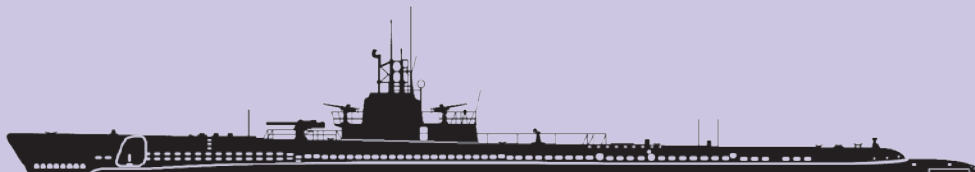
### USS HARDER (SS-257)

Lost on August 24, 1944 from a minesweeper's depth charge attack near Hermana Mayor Island off the west coast of Luzon. It was her sixth and final war patrol. *Harder* had received a Presidential Unit Citation for her first five patrols, and her skipper, Commander Sam Dealey, was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Known as “The Destroyer Killer” for her notable success against these capable anti-submarine vessels, *Harder* is tied for ninth among American submarines in number of enemy ships sunk. Seventy-nine brave souls rode her to the bottom on their Eternal Patrol.



### USS COCHINO (SS-345)

Lost on August 26, 1949 after being jolted by a violent polar gale off Norway. Effects of the severe storm ignited an electrical fire and battery explosion, generating deadly hydrogen and chlorine gasses aboard the boat. In continued extreme weather, men of the *Cochino* and of the nearby *Tusk* (SS-426) fought for fourteen hours to save the stricken submarine. After another withering explosion, “Abandon Ship!” was called, and *Cochino* finally gave up her struggle and went down. Under the direst of emergency circumstances, *Tusk*'s crew managed to rescue *Cochino*'s entire complement except for one civilian engineer. Six *Tusk* sailors were tragically lost during the heroic rescue effort.



WE REMEMBER For those who gave their lives in defense of our country WE REMEMBER



## Keel Laid for First of New *Columbia* Class

(continued from page 1)

our nation,” Norton said in her remarks during the ceremony.

Norton added the district is home to about 30,000 veterans now and almost 200,000 D.C. residents have served in the armed forces since World War I.

It was appropriate, “the Navy would be recognizing the people of the District of Columbia,” she said.

“It is fitting that it recognizes what will become the 51st state.”

Building the twelve boomers of the *Columbia* class has been the Navy’s top priority for the last decade. Preliminary design work on the 520-foot long, 20,000-ton ballistic missile submarine started in 2007. The class will replace the *Ohio*-class ballistic missile submarines as the nation’s number one strategic deterrent, starting with *District of Columbia*’s first patrol in 2031.

The *Columbia* class will carry “seventy percent of America’s deployed nuclear arsenal,” Navy Secretary Carlos Del Toro said at the ceremony at Electric Boat’s Quonset Point facility in Rhode Island. He added the ballistic missile submarines are “the smart-

est investment we can make” to secure the American public.

The *D.C.*-class will bring to the Navy “unmatched stealth, advanced weapons systems” and a complex electric propulsion system, Adm. Daryl Caudle, a career submariner and commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command, said.

Electric Boat president Kevin Graney added, *District of Columbia* is expected to “serve well into the 2080s” and will never have to return to a shipyard for nuclear refueling.

In March, *USNI News* reported the \$110 billion *Columbia* program and the Virginia Payload Module hull module are refining modular techniques EB developed to build the early *Virginia*-class submarines in order to maximize the efficiency of assembling the complex hulls under a timeline with razor-thin margins.

Also as with the *Virginia* class, Electric Boat is pairing with Newport News Shipbuilding for the submarines’ construction. Jennifer Boykin, president of HII’s Newport News Shipbuilding,

(concluded on page 8)



Artist’s rendering of the *Columbia*-class SSBN submarine. (U.S. Navy image.)



## Keel Laid for First of New *Columbia* Class

(concluded from page 7)



*Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.) addresses at a ceremony at the General Dynamics Electric Boat Facility at Quonset Point, Rhode Island, on June 4, 2022. (EB photo.)*

said the work “raised the bar on size and scope” of modular submarine construction. The bow and stern modules for *District of Columbia* will be transported by a specially-built oceangoing barge from Virginia to Electric Boat’s facility at North Kingstown, R.I.

In 2016, the then-Secretary of the Navy announced the first in the new class of boomers would be called *Columbia* after the D.C., reported *USNI News* at the time.

On Friday, Del Toro announced the first boat would officially have “District of” added to her name in order to avoid an overlap in names with the existing USS *Columbia* (SSN-771). The *Los Angeles*-class attack boat, named for cities in South Carolina, Illinois and Missouri, was also built at Electric Boat, and commissioned in 1995. The current *Columbia* was originally set to leave the fleet before *District of Columbia* was to commission, but is now set to see a service life extension, *USNI News* understands.

While the name *Columbia* for U.S. ships and aircraft is not new—at least eight U.S. ships, a Space Shuttle and the Apollo 11 command module have all shared the name—it will be the first time it has been used to commemorate the U.S. capital.

“The District of Columbia is rich with naval history. The Washington Navy Yard is our oldest shore facility; [and] Marines like Montford Point Marine Herman Darden and Brigadier General Anthony Henderson, [plus] sailors like Yeoman Charlotte Louise Berry Winters and Medal of Honor recipient First Class Fireman John Rush were [all] born and raised in D.C.,” Del Toro said.

“This is why I prefer to call D.C. not just our nation’s capital, but instead, our naval capital.”



*Welder Maria Betance-Pizarro welds the initials of the sponsor of the future U.S. Navy ballistic missile submarine *District of Columbia*, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), onto a metal plate at a ceremony at the Electric Boat facility on June 4, 2022. (EB photo.)*



# Navy's Robotic Orca Submarine Could Be a Game Changer in the Pacific

(Reproduced from the Forbes website - published June 2, 2022.)

by Loren Thompson, Senior Contributor



A contemporary Navy submersible is christened at an unknown site. (For illustrative purposes only.)

**T**he U.S. Navy has embarked on a campaign to assimilate unmanned warships into its fleet of combat vessels.

The unmanned warships come with diverse forms and features, but the most promising at present is an 85-foot robotic submarine dubbed *Orca* that can operate autonomously at sea for 30 days.

*Orca* is an evolution of an earlier unmanned sub—technically, an “extra-large unmanned undersea vehicle”—developed by Boeing with the capacity to operate up to two miles below the ocean surface, performing a variety of warfighting missions.

Initially, the Navy expects *Orca* to lay antiship mines, particularly in places where it would be dangerous to send manned warships. According to Dorothy Engelhardt, a key player in the Navy’s unmanned warship efforts, the new system “deliv-

ers game-changing intelligent offensive mine warfare capability that is designed to expose and subdue our enemies’ freedom of movement.”

But as the service experiments with operating concepts for its first few prototypes, the expectation is that *Orca* will eventually be able to perform mine laying, mine countermeasures, intelligence gathering, antisubmarine operations and electronic warfare missions.

It may even be used to conduct strike operations against surface targets, both at sea and on the land.

If these ideas come to fruition, then *Orca* could be the leading edge of a revolution at sea, a versatile unmanned warfighting system enabling distributed maritime operations aimed at defeating the anti-access/area denial efforts of countries like China.

(concluded on page 10)

## Unmanned *Orca* Sub a Game Changer in the Pacific?

(concluded from page 9)

Unmanned undersea systems are not a new idea for the Navy. It has been using smaller robotic subs since the 1990s. But *Orca* is much bigger and more capable than previous such systems, and it is enabled by technologies such as artificial intelligence that previously were not available.

Navy insiders are frank in acknowledging that the full potential of the technology remains to be proven, but it isn't hard to see how robotic subs might solve a number of challenges the sea services face.

The most important such challenge is defeating China's efforts to drive friendly warships out of the Western Pacific by threatening them with long-range antiship missiles.

*Orca* would typically operate in submerged mode, where enemy targeters could not find it, and thus it could help defeat threats that surface warships might be too vulnerable to address in waters near China.

Although manned submarines could accomplish similar missions, *Orca* is designed to cost less than a tenth of what a *Virginia*-class attack sub might, while eliminating the danger of putting sailors in harrowing circumstances.

Alternatively, *Orca* and similar vessels might be used to carry out more routine missions such as ocean surveillance, in the process freeing up personnel whose skills are better applied elsewhere.

These ideas are all in their infancy at present, but Navy leaders are convinced that unmanned vessels, both undersea and on the surface, can make it easier and less expensive to continue policing the sea lanes at a time when challenges are multiplying around the Eurasian periphery.

Despite delays caused by the global pandemic, Boeing has developed its initial *Orca* prototypes in a fraction of the time required to integrate a new ship class, and the company expects the cost of building and operating the vessels will be quite modest compared with relying on manned systems.

That is essential if the Navy is to field a fleet capable of covering all potential threats in the future, because manned warships are simply too costly to build and operate; the fleet will never be big enough to cover all threats if it consists solely of manned warships.

Manned warships will remain the centerpiece of the fleet, of course, often operating in tandem with unmanned vessels, but fielding a sizable complement of autonomous warships that can go places other vessels dare not venture would bring a new dimension to maritime operations.

*Orca*'s modular, open-architecture design would permit multiple payloads depending on mission objectives, and its diesel-electric propulsion system using lithium-ion batteries would enable the robotic subs to remain submerged for up to five days.

The first of five prototypes will be delivered this year, with all five completed by the end of 2023 (HII builds the structures, Boeing integrates the overall system). Boeing stresses that when delivered, the prototypes will all be ready to join the fleet.

The Navy has options to buy more such vehicles, and clearly has high hopes for using *Orca* to solve warfighting problems likely to arise in the near term.

That's important, because although the Navy's Unmanned Campaign Framework has many moving pieces, the Navy does not want its vision to unfold at a leisurely pace. It intends to have *Orca* and other unmanned warships in the fleet and performing missions well before the decade is done.

Congress seems to be gradually coming around to an embrace of this vision. Initially, some lawmakers wanted concrete evidence that the technologies involved were sufficiently mature for integration into working warfighting systems.

However, the Navy argues that enabling technologies have progressed rapidly, and that the only way to test their utility is to conduct experimentation at sea using fully integrated systems.

The last thing the sea services want is for the unmanned roadmap to stretch out at a time when China is rapidly expanding its own maritime capabilities.

China already possesses important geographical advantages in seeking to dominate the Western Pacific; the U.S. can't afford to strengthen Beijing's edge by taking too long to exploit new technologies that might help to level the playing field.

So, *Orca* stands out as a critical test case of whether the Navy is on the right track to secure the Pacific Ocean for friendly nations in the years ahead. If the technology proves itself, America will have new maritime tools that China does not. If problems arise, the Navy needs to know now so it can adjust its plans.

Either way, *Orca* is a potential milestone in the evolution of maritime operations, and thus merits close attention.

*Dr. Loren Thompson focuses on the strategic, economic and business implications of defense spending as the Chief Operating Officer of the Lexington Institute and Chief Executive Officer of Source Associates. She has also taught advanced courses in strategy, technology and media affairs at Georgetown and Harvard.*

# Nobody Had to Come and Get This Idiot

by Bob “Dex” Armstrong

Keep a zero bubble,

Dex.



In the war movies... You know, the World War II submarine movies. The ones where officers wear their hats in the conning tower and the cooks are all good natured Irishmen who say, “Gee whiz, fellas...” a lot and never seem to be cooking anything. In those films, there’s always some teenage corpsman who can do kidney transplants and heart valve surgery from the instructions found in some paperback he picked up at a yard sale.

How come you can hear them yell, “Blow negative to the mark!”—then, nothing. No one pumps anything anywhere and no one cycles the vents. Why? Were they so good they trimmed ‘em on the surface? There’s never any air trapped in a ballast tank that picks an awkward time to gurgle up like a rhino fart at midnight.

You know that the “to” and “from” trips to the secret Jap convoy staging base in Foosomarango Bay, in the Tappamafooso Straits, has got to take a couple of weeks. No trash... No one-way... No stinking laundry... Compartments neat and clean and the crew is talking to each other like the Waltons family. How did they do it?

Nobody making nasty comments about the coffee... No coffee cups all over the control room. When the boats surface, the surface conditions are right off a tourist poster. The moon illuminates all night targets. No ratty dungarees. Strongest words used by a Chief is something like, “Dagnabbit...” or “Gee willickers.” Someone in the crew always gets a letter from home with a photo of a new baby in it. No one in the crew says, “What an ugly-ass kid. Looks a lot like his old man was that second class motor-mac on the *Cubera*.”

I watched every sub movie as a kid. Saw ‘em all. You name the movie and my butt was spot-welded to a third row seat.

“Hey kid, you sit up that close you’ll ruin your eyes.”

I was a stupid kid. I figured if you sat in the middle of the theatre, there must be stuff you missed. Sometimes they had a live show before the movie, like Tim McCoy doin’ ropin’ tricks, or watchin’ Gene Autry draw his trusty revolver. If that happened, they usually picked kids in the first through third rows for some interactive entertainment. I got roped in by some unknown guy who turned out to be Monty Montana. Back in the ‘40s, the movie distributors spirited their B-western kids’ icons all over hell and half of Georgia to promote their cowboy image. I wondered when they did all their cowboying stuff. Not that I

was an expert on cowboys’ agendas.

Somewhere between wanting to be a G-man, firehouse captain, locomotive engineer, sheriff of Dodge City, and a circus acrobat, I found I wanted to be a submarine sailor, because blowing up ships when nobody was looking looked like a good thing to do at the time. For a kid with a closetful of quarter sticks, M-80s, bulldog salutes, and cherry bombs, blowin’ stuff up for a living seemed a great idea.

In the ‘40s, the folks at the A&P store in St. Elmo, Tennessee would fork over a penny for every cleaned and washed soda bottle you turned in. All you needed was a red wagon, a garden hose and a couple miles of highway full of “pop bottle weeds.” In the pre-ecology days in the rural south, boys would hold pop bottles out the window of a moving car, where wind passing over its opening would make a sound that drove adults nuts. After less than a minute, your dad would yell, “Give me that gahdam sonuvabitch!”—and then toss your musical instrument out the window into the “pop bottle weeds.” Or, once you’d finished a bottle of pop, you could roll down a window and see if you could bounce the empty bottle off something alongside of the highway: Signs. Mailboxes. Or little kids who looked like they might grow up and become cooks or Chief Petty Officers.

*Operation Pacific. Torpedo Run. Torpedo Alley. We Dive at Dawn. Hellcats of the Navy. Men Beneath the Sea.* I saw ‘em all, and all thanks to funding via Coke, Pepsi, Nehi, and Doctor “Peep-eye”—and the fathers and kids who tossed those bottles in the days before littering was criminal and recycling was popular.

And because of that, I became a bluejacket—already stuck in the cobweb of naval recruiting propaganda by the ripe ol’ age of eight. Then, when reaching fifteen, and silver-tongued Rear Admiral Thomas M. Dykers, USN Retired, started laying his flypaper on TV, I was a dead rascal. I had “Take me to New London” written indelibly all over my ass.

Hell, if they had issued movie qual Dolphins, I’d have had two sets before entering high school. I got so salty sitting in the dark at the Rialto Theater, I looked like Capt. Hornblower with dilated pupils.

I was a fish that the United States Submarine Navy took with extremely light tackle. Hell, I jumped into the boat and into the frying pan faster than any other dumb sonuvabitch who ever turned back a mattress or laid out his crap in a side locker—in good ol’ barracks 142 at sub school.



# A More Sub Tales Excerpt: What Sets Submariners Apart?

...a *Sub Tales* followup from the *Poopie Suits and Cowboy Boots* Facebook page.

(Reproduced with permission from Charles Hood.)

Our friend Bill Moak recently found this on FB and thoughtfully sent it over to me for inclusion in *The Periscope*. (Many thanks as always, Bill!) Happily knowing Mr. Charles Hood myself, this presented a unique opportunity for me to actually seek permission from the author (!) before going ahead and “borrowing” web-based content for these pages regardless. Enjoy!—ed.

## In belated honor of the USS Scorpion and Memorial Day...

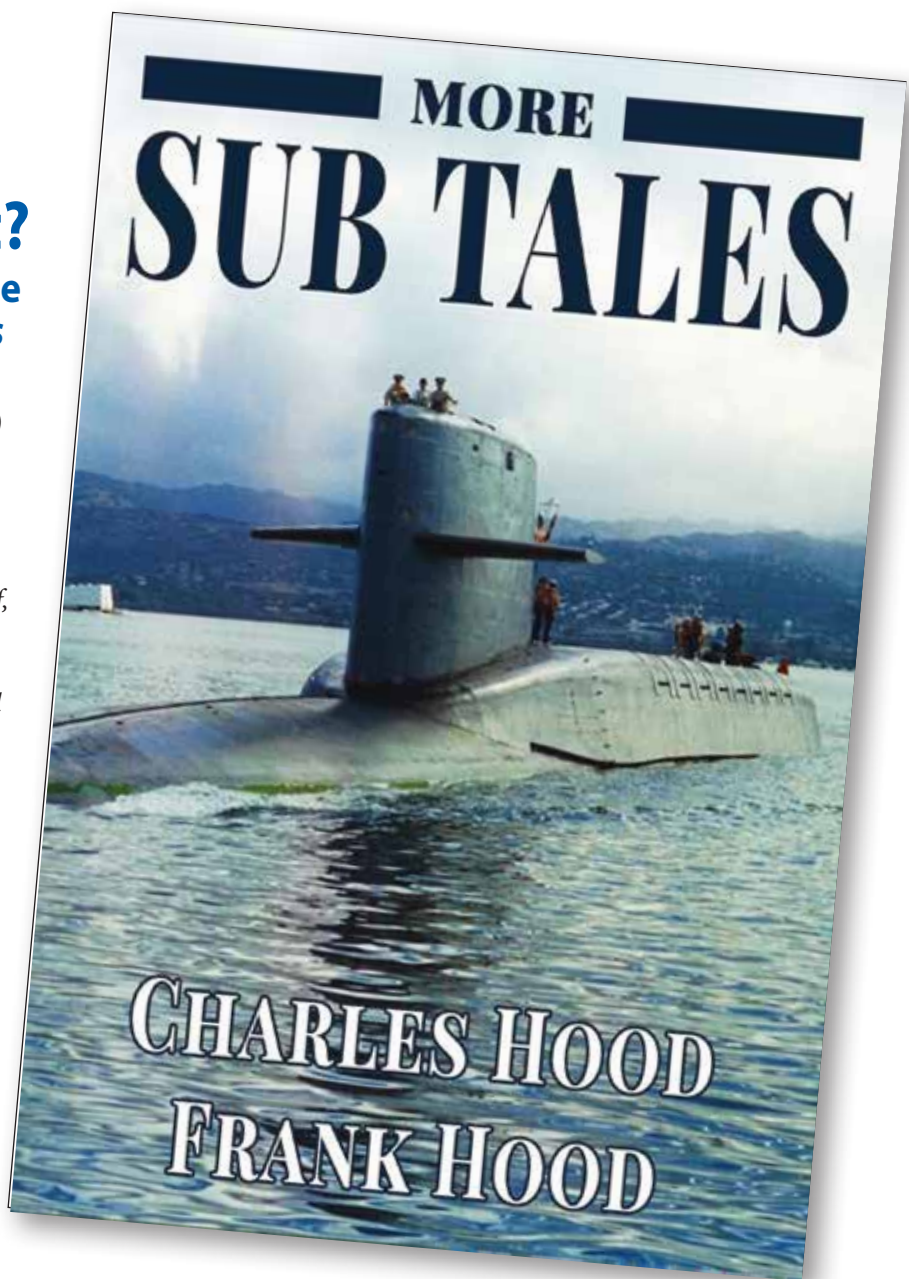
The “Secret Sauce” section of *Poopie Suits & Cowboy Boots* on FB discusses the unique qualities which set submariners apart. Its *More Sub Tales* chapter is dedicated to Chief Wally Bishop, COB of the fallen USS *Scorpion*, which was lost at sea 54 years ago. On Memorial Day, we paused to consider what kind of men volunteered for such duty:

The introductory handbook to the U.S. Navy, *The Bluejackets’ Manual*, contains this description of submarine duty in its 19th edition published in 1973:

“Submarine duty is different from anything else in the Navy; it requires a certain temperament which not all men possess.”

In an attempt to better quantify the “special sauce” that typifies an outstanding submarine sailor, we posed this question to the many submarine veterans who follow our Facebook group page entitled *Poopie Suits & Cowboy Boots*: “What do you think is the ‘certain temperament’ that *The Bluejackets’ Manual* describes?”

We received many answers. Readers offered a range of interesting thoughts about the nature of “that certain something” or *je ne sais quoi*—the special quality that perhaps sets the



submariner apart from other sailors. To borrow the title Tom Wolfe’s classic book about the Mercury Seven astronauts, what constitutes “the right stuff” for submarine service? Here are the results.

- You have to be a bit thick-skinned. A sub crew is like a family; you can fight with each other but no outsider had better step in.
- It is the calmness that improves with confidence. Some people react instantly to a bad situation, thinking that any action is better than inaction. Some people never react because the situation freezes their minds. But the submariner is always the calm one in any situation (and I’ve worked with lots of ex-military including submariners, skimmers, and various others in the 32 years since I got out, and I’ve worked in the utility industry so we have plenty of bad

(continued on page 13)

## What Sets Submariners Apart?

(continued from page 12)

situations to test people). We don't "react" as others do. We think and then act and nothing makes us freeze up. I've even had people comment that, "It's weird that all you bubbleheads respond the same way to everything." And that is what sets us apart. Part of it is training. Part of it is our experience. But the first part is always the fact that we are people who thought we could function completely sealed inside a machine that took us down into the most inhospitable place on earth.

- A submariner finds that fresh air stinks after three months of not breathing it. He finds that body odors, no matter how pungent, just don't register after awhile. Most importantly, regardless of race, creed, color, faith, or sex, being a submariner is a little like the main characters of *The Three Musketeers*: "All for one and one for all!"

- In my mind, it has to be the ability to put one's life on hold when you drop down that hatch and then to focus on your job, for the duration of the operation. The ability to keep the situation at home in the back of your mind, without dwelling on it, knowing that there is nothing you can do about it. I watched three men crack up and have to be stabilized for the duration of the deployment, as they could not deal with the separation anxiety that overtook them. I rode the boats in the Sixties and Seventies, during that time when there were no communications with the home front. On fast attack boats at the time, separation was total—from the time we left until the time we came back.

- In submarine service, you have to be a self-starter. If you are not self-motivated, then you probably won't want to teach yourself everything you need to learn about your boat. After absorbing all of that classroom information, it's a shock to the senses to be introduced to the real thing. But once you report aboard, no one is going to hold your hand and explain how she is put together. That's your job. You have to physically trace out the system components, valves, switches, and the like, and then you have to be able to draw all key components as they are connected. This task is yours to accomplish on your own. Otherwise, you will not make it. The older guys will help you after you've learned almost everything; only then is it okay to ask for help with the fine details. If they sense you are trying to slough your way through the qualifications, the word will get out about your poor attitude and that you are a slacker just looking to get easy sign-offs on your qual card. Qualification suddenly becomes twice as hard.

- All are volunteers with a tested IQ of 140 or better. (*Editor's note*: There is no consensus that this statement is true.

However, it is abundantly clear that becoming qualified in submarines requires a versatile intelligence that enables one to learn every system backward and forward.)

- We are gypsies at heart.

- When I would shut the upper hatch in the Engine Room using a hydraulic hand pump and watch that last bit of sunlight disappear, I was filled with a resolve to do my best, because I was among the best.

- It's a question of attitude. We had to volunteer so many times before you get to your first boat. Everyone on that boat had to want to be there.

- Submariners' temperament? Let's go way back and say that a lot of that temperament, probably the majority, came from childhood upbringing. I was raised with a set of values and ethics that I still live by today at age 80+. I visited the parents of several shipmates in their homes while in the Navy, and always felt comfortable and relaxed just as I would when home with my own parents. Childhood core values—they shape the character of the adult. We, the "Brothers of the 'Phin," mostly shared those same core values—officers and enlisted alike. I sailed with hundreds of shipmates in my ten years on subs and can only think of two shipmates whom I would consider as complete a-holes. I doubt if any others military or civilian organization can say the same.

- Wild, intelligent, adaptable...misfits.

- Submariners are unflappable...okay, maybe not entirely. But overall, they have a very limited "flappability."

- Many submariners grew up reading stories or watching TV shows or movies about submarines at war. The same sense of adventure attracted the same crowd to consider becoming a race car driver or a fighter pilot. But then when you make it to a boat, you realize that five things are different about submarines:

- Parachutes don't apply

- No medics or ambulances can help

- You are confined within the same space for months

- You are surrounded by a deep and merciless sea...

- One mistake and everyone aboard could perish.

(continued on page 14)

## What Sets Submariners Apart?

(continued from page 13)

That's why we drilled so hard. There was no time to think during an emergency. You had to know what to do in an instant, so you practiced and played out all the scenarios while you were on watch. There was a real sense of discipline required that not all sailors were wired for.

- Temperament to me is one's mood swing, attitude, aggression factor, etc., and unlike on a surface ship where separation is possible between two that don't get along, we cannot do that on a submarine. Sub sailors are "Brothers of the Sea," and as such, are family. I believe the "certain temperament" posed in the question may be whittled down to one word... maturity.

- Big balls of steel!

- Good question. My wife still asks me why I'm crazy after thirty years.

- Being smarter than the average bear (as Yogi Bear might say), and having the ability to make decisions without direct supervision.

- A nuke on my first boat really, really disliked a forward guy's personality. But when the forward guy did something real frigging stupid in Bermuda, the nuke kept this guy out of very serious trouble. Even the guys you may not personally like are part of the brotherhood and you will defend them; on a submarine you can't "socially distance," and everyone counts on everyone else.

- Under several layers of toughness, fearless bravado, and craziness lies a heart ruled by common sense and a deep understanding of brotherhood.

- One of our mottos is "train your relief." We don't "grape off" signatures on qualification cards because we must trust that every watchstander knows what to do in each situation. We had some really scary situations during my tours on five different subs over my twenty-nine years in the Navy.

- The difference is having the mentality to look at a problem from all angles, assess, recommend, and attack—all at once with the proper outcome—combined with the ability to adapt and overcome, even the largest of problems. Oh, also with little or no supervision.

- Being on a submarine with other submariners is kind of like holding a MENSA convention at a biker bar.

- You have to truly like yourself and not mind being isolat-

ed. Many times, due to circumstances beyond your control on the boat, you can be surrounded by people and still feel totally isolated.

- Here's one way to put it: You may not trust your shipmates with your sister, but you know that you can trust them with your life. We all went to hell and back, and we'd do it again.

- I'm going to push back a bit...all sailors, but particularly submariners, turn complaining into an art form. The food, field days, inspections, chiefs, officers...you name it, we complain about it. It helped to pass the time and keep our sanity, especially if you were an inventive complainer—you were appreciated! But we never complained about the mission. We did what we needed to do because we were making a difference.

- The "special sauce" is an odd combination of patience and quick responsiveness. See, most of the time you are steaming steady-state, then all of a sudden something happens and you have to leap into action.

- When the excrement strikes the rotating blades of the air-flow device, you have to have your game face on. And since it happens when you least expect it, you come to just expect it all the time. The tension is not for everyone.

- The submariner's temperament is the dichotomy of love and hate. We love our boat—we would die to save it—but we hate to be on it all the time. We love our crew—we would defend (most of) them to the end—but we hate being stuck with them for weeks on end. We love the camaraderie of the Brothers of the 'Phin, but we can't wait to get away from it all.

- The key to being a submariner is to have allowed the Navy to prove to you that you were capable of much, much more than you ever knew. That belief creates a calmness of mind that allows you to think clearly in the midst of whatever tumult or chaos you may face.

- You have to have the mindset that you're not going to worry about that hostile seawater pressing in on you at 400 feet or greater, and you have to have the ability to coexist, up close and personal.

- It's a mix of intelligence, independence, self-awareness, confidence, dedication, courage, patience, tolerance, humor and a healthy dose of bat-s\*\*t crazy.

- "Danger is no stranger to the underwater ranger."

(continued on page 15)



## What Sets Submariners Apart?

(continued from page 14)

- You have to have big balls while maintaining a manageable balls-to-brains ratio under stress.
- Our service above all teaches that you must rely on and trust one another. Our fish are a sign of our dedication to every person on the boat; they show that you are my brother and I will not let you down.

Let us close this chapter with a few observations about that man on every submarine who absolutely has to have the right stuff—the COB. One perspective is provided by submarine veteran and frequent contributor Russ Cox, who wrote this eloquent description of the post:

“The COB is a position of high reverence and a holdover from the hierarchy of the WWII fleetboats. The man chosen is a career submariner. The enlisted men under him, and the captain and other officers, depend on the COB to run the day-to-day functions of the watch bill, oversee the qualification of nubs, and handle necessary disciplinary actions, among many other tasks. The most important job of the COB is to be a steady and reassuring leader during any emergency. Because of his years of experience and his proven judgment, the COB is expected to be the one sailor on board who is capable of saving the boat at the site of the incident. He is the eyes and ears of the commanding officer at the scene, since most officers have their assignments during Battle Stations in the Conn and engineering spaces.

“Without men like Chief Bishop, who stepped up to become COB of the *Scorpion* as a first class torpedoman’s mate, the Submarine Force could not maintain the high standards set by the submariners of WWII, and the branch could not hold on to its reputation as an elite branch of the Armed Forces, ready for any situation. You see, submariners don’t care about seniority or rank. They appreciate having the best man on the job, period. They take orders, of course, but when you respect a leader, you will volunteer to do anything they ask without hesitation. It is the COB who sets the tone of professionalism and maintains the expectation of having all men serving under him becoming Qualified in Submarines.

“Although Chief Bishop and his shipmates were so tragically lost, we submariners, past and present, will always hold our predecessors on eternal patrol in the highest esteem, because they represent the very best of the traditions of the Silent Service. By their example of sacrifice, we who follow in their footsteps are inspired to strive for that same level of excellence and dedication to service, so that the successful deterrence of war by the Submarine Force becomes the only acceptable “happy ending” for us all. As the Navy saying

goes, we are proud to ‘carry on.’”

Another submarine veteran and contributor to our books, Keith Weitemeyer, offered his thoughts on the importance of the COB and how the reverence for the position speaks volumes about Chief Bishop:

“Wally Bishop is an exemplar for why the U.S. Submarine Force has the reputation that it so doggedly guards. His service on the *Corporal*, *Wahoo*, *Sargo*, and *Scorpion* bridged the era from the DBF (“Diesel Boats Forever”) sailors who won the war in the Pacific, to the almost science-fictionesque capabilities of today’s nuclear submarines. His confidence and competence led him to seek out and earn challenging and dangerous jobs. Because of his valuable skills, at some point he stopped being Petty Officer Bishop and became simply “The Chief” or the “COB.” All he was responsible for at that point was everything—from anticipating all that might be needed for a patrol on a submerged submarine a thousand miles from anywhere to educating and motivating about a hundred disparate individuals from all walks of life to master their jobs and perform flawlessly.

“The best COBs are easy to spot. They don’t appear overwhelmed by the responsibilities entrusted to them, because they don’t look or sound excited, and they never lose their cool. They know what needs to be accomplished, so they get it done—by training junior sailors to recognize and grasp the necessary tasks to grow into trustworthy and reliable shipmates. Along the way, a great COB teaches a thing or two about the right approach to life in general as well.

“It was especially sad to note that Chief Bishop was so close to completing his twenty years in the Navy. If we could have witnessed his retirement ceremony, we would have probably seen someone keeping a clamp on his emotions upon departing the Navy and saying farewell to his beloved boat and brothers in arms. Part of him would have already been missing the crew, but another part would have reassured him that the guys were going to be okay in his absence, because he had trained them right.

“To Chief Bishop, and to all of the COBs out there—thanks for showing us “how to do it.”

Posing the question to submariners about what sets them apart has generated much discussion during the preparation of this chapter. Sub veteran Greg Scott, an important contributor to this project, offered his thoughts.

“In reviewing the draft to this chapter, I found that every-

(concluded on page 16)

## What Sets Submariners Apart?

(concluded from page 15)

thing shared about the “secret sauce” was 100% accurate. (Just ask any current or veteran submariner.) I’d like to offer a few key words that make up the temperament of a submariner:

- **Pride** – It is said that pride runs deep, and that is the case with a sub sailor. Pride in the dolphins worn close to his heart. Pride in the job undertaken. Pride in his service.
- **Brotherhood** – There is no tighter group of sailors than submariners. You know in your heart that no matter what, you can count on each other in any situation, on the surface or below the waves; in port, at home, wherever. There is nothing you won’t do for your shipmate.
- **Integrity** – You have a job to do and you have responsibility like no one else. You know that everyone on the boat relies on you to do your job at 110%, from the lowliest nub to the CO. It’s a kind of responsibility like no other job because their lives, and yours, may depend on you.
- **Guts** – While many submariners don’t consciously think about it, it takes a lot of guts (or being nuts) to get into a vessel designed to intentionally go underwater, usually to depths that no human being could survive.
- **Ingenuity** – You learn to make do with what you have. When faced with a problem, you solve it. You look for a way to overcome the obstacle staring you in the face, and laugh at it as you defeat it.
- **Sense of humor** – A lot of s#\$@ goes on under the waves, so being able to laugh helps keep you grounded and sane. Pranks occur frequently, and inevitably, you will become the brunt of one. Just remember that when it comes to revenge, submariners don’t just get even, we get ahead.
- **Maturity** – When you come to realize the immense power of the boat that you are riding, whether you’re a senior officer or fresh out of Sub School enlisted, you quickly come of age; even if you’re in your teens, you are now an adult, with very adult responsibility.
- **Perseverance** – You may not like what you’re doing, or where you are going, but you see it through, because that’s what you volunteered for.
- **Decisiveness** – As exemplified by Chief Bishop in the 1962 *Scorpion* incident in the Torpedo Room, you must be able to make split-second decisions correctly.

- **Selflessness** – Knowing that you may be called upon to make that ultimate sacrifice for the good of the boat, your shipmates, or your country, you must be willing to do it.

- **Honor** – You have a sense of honor because of the work you do within a very elite force. You are a submariner.”

We salute Chief Bishop and his shipmates and celebrate their legacy. May we never, ever forget the sacrifices of the men lost aboard *Scorpion* and the tremendous burden imposed upon their stricken families. Chief Bishop and his shipmates certainly had the right stuff—that intangible quality of greatness that sets submariners apart.



Also found on the internet recently by Bill Moak and submitted to run here. Apparently this piece is circa 1944.—ed.

*The Silent Service*

**S** – is for STAMINA in hardship to serve;  
**U** – for the UNION they fight to preserve.  
**B** – tells of BLOWS...each hard BLOW that’s struck;  
**M** – hails the MEN...and their limitless pluck.  
**A** – avows ACTION that makes pulses race;  
**R** – imputes RISKS they so heedlessly face.  
**I** – means INTREPID and, of course, INSPIRATION;  
**N** – stands for NAVY, bright shield of the NATION.  
**E** – marks the ENEMY’S mounting distress;  
**S** – is for SILENCE but also SUCCESS.



**PRIDE RUNS DEEP**



*L.A.-Pasadena Members: Just learned of this—an evening of patriotic music in the park!—ed.*

Ticket Information Here: <https://sealbeachsymphony.com/2022-patriots-in-the-park/>



Chad Berlinghieri  
Artistic Director

# Seal Beach Symphony



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PURCHASE TICKETS

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[SealBeachSymphony@gmail.com](mailto:SealBeachSymphony@gmail.com) • (562) 509-8640

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AN EVENING OF CLASSICAL AMERICANA IN EISENHOWER PARK

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## New Members

We proudly welcome aboard our newest base shipmates:

### Charles R. Hinman

(Associate Member)

Wife: Keiko

2015 Lime Street, Apt. #904  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826-3930  
cell: 808-561-2869  
charles.hinman@gmail.com  
Phone number at *Bowfin*  
Museum: 808-423-1341

### Dr. Darin Steven Detwiler

(E5-MM2SS; served 1986-1994)

Wife: Gennette Zimmer

205 7th Street  
Seal Beach, CA 90740-6180  
cell: 425-232-5743  
ddetwiler680@gmail.com  
Qualified in 1989 on the  
USS *William H. Bates* (SSN-680)

### Robert "Bob" John Frazier

EMC-SS E-7 CPO; served '78-'94)

4278 Hill Avenue  
Fullerton, CA 92833-3430  
cell: 714-931-8654

Uboatman@gmail.com

Qualified in 1981 on the  
USS *Tautog* (SSN-639)—'80-'85  
USS *Rich. B. Russell* (SSN-687) '89-'92

### Robert "Mike" Cailor (returning)

(EM1-SS E6; served '64-'71)

Wife: Rebecca

2514 Elm St., Seffner, FL 33584-5812  
cell: 813-585-7615  
rmcgfish@gmail.com  
Qualified in 1968 on the  
USS *Guardfish* (SSN-612)

### Edward "Ed" Elliot Kushins

(LT-03SS; served '68-'79)

Wife: Mary Hamilton

45 16th Street  
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254-3402  
phone: 310-345-3562  
edkushins@gmail.com  
Qualified on the USS *Flasher*  
(SSN-613)—'69-'71, LTJG.

### Ramon O. Aguilar (returning)

(E5-ET Radio Div.; 1996-2001)

22736 Jody Lane

Carson, CA 90745-3603

cell: 562-303-0866

octiviano89@gmail.com

Qualified in 1998 on the USS  
*City of Corpus Christi* (SSN-705)



## "Get'cher Chapter News Here — Read All About It! —"

*When News Breaks, We Pick Up the Pieces...*

### Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade

A dozen submarine veterans, representing USSVI's Los Angeles-Pasadena Base and Bonefish Base, marched proudly in this year's parade to perpetuate the memory of shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit

of their duties while serving their country. With two trucks, a trailer for the USS *Bonefish* (SS-223) model, and two banners, the group won the parade's American Patriotism Award trophy. BZ, guys!—*Darin Detwiler*



*Members of USSVI's Los Angeles-Pasadena Base and Bonefish Base pose with L.A. Dodgers' legend Steve Garvey, who came by to say hello to his heroes before the parade started.*



*The model of USS Bonefish (SS-223) stands proud—dressed for the parade.*



*Bonefish model ready for sea.*



*Preparing the float.*



*Honoring our WWII subvets.*



# More from the Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade



*Preparing the float.*



*More preparation.*



*USSVI Bonefish Base Cmdr. Gene Adams (left) & Tim Martz (rt.) carry their banner.*



*L.A.-Pasadena Base member Darin Detwiler participates in his first parade with USSVI.*



*(Left to rt.) Los Angeles-Pasadena Base members Ray Teare, Paul Riggs, Dennis Bott, and Sam Higa ready for action.*



*Ray Teare (left) and Bill Moak (rt.) carry the USSVI banner.*



*Float and crew at Parade Rest.*



# And Still More from the Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade

(Left to rt.) Bill Moak, David Vanderveen, Gene Adams, and Tim Martz pose with the Patriotism Award trophy.



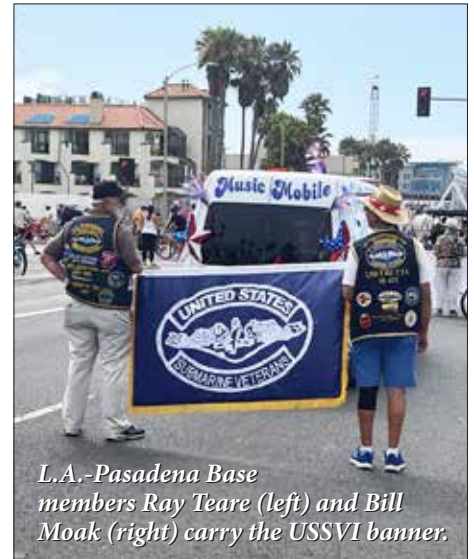
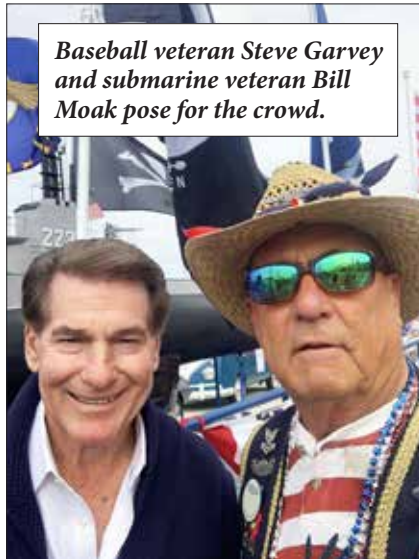
(Left to rt.) Bonefish Base Sr. Vice Commander (and builder of the Bonefish model) Dan Rowland poses with the trophy along with Darin Detwiler, Bill Moak, and Bo Bolton of L.A.-Pasadena Base.



Bonefish float on the move.

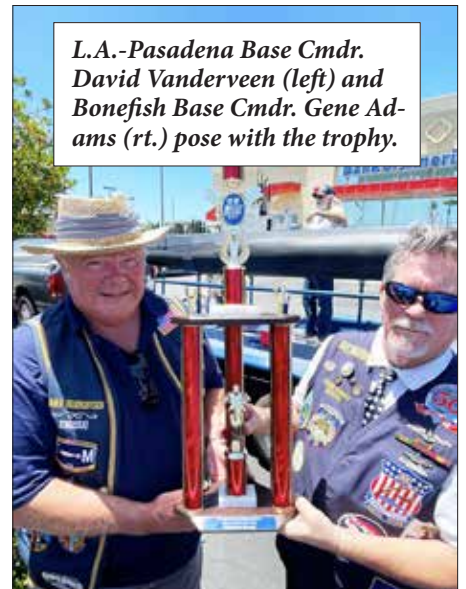


Baseball veteran Steve Garvey and submarine veteran Bill Moak pose for the crowd.



L.A.-Pasadena Base members Ray Teare (left) and Bill Moak (right) carry the USSVI banner.

L.A.-Pasadena Base Cmdr. David Vanderveen (left) and Bonefish Base Cmdr. Gene Adams (rt.) pose with the trophy.



Members of USSVI's L.A.-Pasadena Base and Bonefish Base pose with the 2022 Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade American Patriotism Award.







## L.A.-Pasadena Base 50-Year Holland Club

(75-year members noted with \*)

Gerard A. Krudwig.....	2022
Gregory M. Paulson .....	2022
Michael J. Swanson .....	2022
Ralph J. Hansen.....	2021
Robert F. Schive, Sr.....	2021
Larry D. Long .....	2021
G. Judson "Jud" Scott, Jr....	2021
Edward E. Kushins .....	2020
Bruce Evan Neighbors .....	2020
David H. Vanderveen .....	2019
Philip J. Jaskoviak.....	2019
Dennis Bott .....	2018
Robert "Mike" Cailor .....	2018
Robert Miller.....	2018
John A. Anderson.....	2017
Roger C. Dunham, MD....	2017
Richard McPherson .....	2017
Harry "Bill" Moak .....	2017
Louis A. Myerson .....	2017
Elliot Rada .....	2017
Ronald G. Wagner .....	2017
Dennis J. Walsh.....	2017
Michael Kish.....	2016
Gary Wheaton .....	2016
Lawrence R. Butler .....	2015
Samuel T. Higa .....	2015
Harry P. Ross .....	2015
Stephen C. Rowe .....	2015
Charles H. Senior .....	2015
Larry E. Smith .....	2015
Sam Aboulafia .....	2014

(concluded next page)



## Los Angeles-Pasadena Base 2022 Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 15:	Monthly Meeting via Zoom Conference
February 19:	Monthly Meeting at Taco Surf Restaurant
March 19	Monthly Meeting at Taco Surf Restaurant
April 16	Monthly Meeting Cancelled
May 7	Lion's Club Memorial Plaque Refit Reception at the Submarine Memorial, West - 1600-1700
May 14	Field Day/Prep at the Memorial Site - 0900
May 21	Hang Up the Tarp at Memorial Site - 0900 Monthly Meeting at the Memorial site Call for participants in the Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade
May 30	Memorial Day Service - 1100 Submarine Memorial, West
May 28	More Tarp Prep at the Memorial Site
June 18	STEAK FEST at Monthly Meeting at Bunker 33 Picnic Area; Nominations for 2023 Base Officers
July 4	115th Annual... Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade
July 16	LeRoy Stone Memorial Picnic Bunker 33, Seal Beach Weapons Station
August 20	Monthly Mtg. - Glory Days Grill - Hawaii Theme 2023 Base Officer Candidates Announced
September 17	ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Election of Officers
October 15	Monthly Meeting Annual Officer Installation Luncheon
November 19	Monthly Meeting - Thanksgiving Theme
December 10	Annual Christmas Luncheon at the Los Alamitos Golf Course

(Holland Club Roster, continued)

David Palagyi..... 2014  
 Earl Thomas Peratt, Jr. .... 2014  
 David D. Semrau, DDS .... 2014  
 Ray Tracy Teare..... 2014  
 Milton Harry Boudov ..... 2013  
 Kenneth Jon Dorn..... 2013  
 M. Mark Hoffer ..... 2013  
 Michael P. Klein..... 2013  
 Ronald L. Levenson..... 2013  
 Edward L. Arnold..... 2012  
 T. Michael Bircumshaw.... 2012  
 Raymond Cheesebrough . 2012  
 Bobby O. Mahaffey..... 2012  
 John V. Mahan ..... 2012  
 Lee Melody ..... 2012  
 Clyde Matthew Turner..... 2012  
 George R. Walrath..... 2012  
 John L. Weisenberger ..... 2012  
 Edward A. Barwick..... 2011  
 Joseph W. Koch, Jr. .... 2011  
 Stephen D. Diument ..... 2009  
 David Whittlesey ..... 2009  
 Dennis A. Yure..... 2009  
 Armen Bagdasarian..... 2008  
 Paul A. Riggs..... 2008  
 Rex L. Shields..... 2008  
 John L. Von Ulmen ..... 2008  
 Francis R. Traser..... 2006  
 Ronald K. Thompson..... 2004  
 Robert L. Conboy..... 2003  
 James Rogers ..... 2003  
 John E. Savela, Jr..... 2003  
 Ben Van Devender..... 2002  
 Berry S. Yolken ..... 2002  
 James E. Carter ..... 1999  
 William F. Long ..... 1999  
 Herbert J. "Bo" Bolton .... 1998  
 Kenneth E. Chunn..... 1998  
 \*Royal Harrison, Jr..... 1995  
 \*Sterling F. Higgins ..... 1995  
 \*Robert Clair Koplin..... 1995  
 \*William J. Dillon..... 1993  
 \*Harold Staggs..... 1992



## E-Board Meeting Minutes of July 16, 2022

The Los Angeles-Pasadena Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., Executive Board Meeting was conducted on the morning of Saturday, July 16, 2022.

### In attendance:

- Dave Vanderveen, Base Commander
- Mike Swanson, Treasurer
- Ray Teare, Base COB
- Herb "Bo" Bolton, Director
- Sam Higa, Director
- Joe Koch, Member
- Jeff Porteous, *Periscope* Editor
- Darin Detwiler, New Member

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the meeting at the Bunker 33 Picnic Area of the NWSSB to order at 1020 hours with a quorum present. Minutes of the June General and Executive meetings were reviewed with no additions nor corrections requested. Mike Swanson moved to accept the Minutes; this was seconded by Sam Higa and passed by voice vote.

### Treasurer's Financial Report: Mike Swanson

Base Treasurer Mike Swanson reported that our banking business has been completely transferred from Wells Fargo to Pacific Premier Bank, including a closing check from Wells Fargo for \$.10 interest earned. Mike then read into the Minutes the Treasurer's Report as of July 15, 2022:

Checking	\$21,423.85
Savings	\$00.00
Cash On Hand	\$50.00
Uncleared Checks:	\$58.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,415.46</b>

All vendors have been paid up-to-date.

Income:	\$140.00
Expenses:	\$734.00

### Flower/Booster Club Additions:

Ken Dorn	\$100.00
Harold Staggs	\$50.00

### Inkind Donations:

\$00.00

No questions or corrections were offered by the Board. Ray Teare moved to accept the Treasurer's Report; it was seconded by Sam Higa and passed by voice vote.

### Memorial Report:

In Memorial Director Dennis Bott's absence, Dave reported that the Aleppo Pine at the entry walkway has been diagnosed by Gruet's Tree Service to have a root disease, which is aggravated by overwatering. Paul Riggs advised that the cost to remediate is prohibitively high so Gruet recommends removal and replacement. Separately, NWSSB Public Works has been requested to identify and remedy the overwatering problem which is likely a broken irrigation tube. Once that has been done, further action will be decided for the tree. Additionally, Seal Beach Lions Club has advised us their fundraising for renovation of the WWII Submarine Memorial exceeded their need for the project, so they have decided to perform

(concluded on next page)

## Navy's Latest Sub Arrives: USS Oregon

The Virginia-class USS Oregon and her crew will be "vital to our undersea mission," the Secretary of the Navy says.

(Reproduced from The Nat'l Interest website; first published June 1, 2022.)

by Caleb Larson

The Navy has announced its newest Virginia-class sub, USS Oregon (SSN-793), has just been commissioned. The fast-attack boat is also the newest Navy sub of any class. Oregon represents the second Block IV Virginia-class fast attack boat.

"There is no doubt the importance this boat, named after the great state of Oregon, will play in the future of our nation's security," Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro said. "This crew is vital to our undersea mission, and I look forward to all of their successes."

The USS Oregon is "the third U.S. Navy ship launched to bear the name Oregon, but is the first in more than a century," the U.S. Navy explained in a statement elaborating on the new submarine's storied heritage.

"The first was a brig in service from 1841 to 1845. The second was an Indiana-class battleship, commissioned in 1896, which served in the Spanish-American War and was ultimately decommissioned for the final time in 1919."

The Navy's statement noted the USS Oregon is "377 feet long, has a 34-foot beam, and will be able to dive to depths greater than 800 feet and operate at speeds in excess of 25 knots submerged." In addition, she carries a crew of "approximately 136."

(concluded on next page)

## E-Board Meeting Minutes...

(concluded from previous page)

semi-annual cleaning and touch-up of the grounds, including application of protective wax to the monument plaques. Their generosity is gratefully accepted!

Dave next outlined a proposal by base member Michael Williamson to assist with the USS Phoenix project to establish a Memorial in the City of Phoenix. The project team has acquired 65 tons of parts and materials from the Navy after recycling was completed on the ex-Phoenix (SSN-702), and it will become core components of the new Memorial. After some discussion regarding our Base finances and commitments, Sam Higa moved that L.A.-Pasadena donate \$100 to the project. This was seconded by Mike Swanson and passed by voice vote. Dave will also pass the project information on to Jeff for consideration as part of the next issue of the *Periscope*. Additionally, the project information will be forwarded to members by email so they can consider personal donations to the effort.

Mike discussed a request our base had received to add an announcement regarding veterans' training to our SoCal SubVets website. After some conversation, we recognized that we receive so many of these requests which seem beneficial to veterans, but that we would unnecessarily clutter our website if we added such information. Dave will advise the agency which made the request that we respectfully decline.

Dave related the latest difficulty raised by Base Security regarding L.A.-Pasadena member access, and denial of our request to hold our annual "white elephant" auction. Further concern was raised about less-mobile members trying to traverse the rough ground at Bunker 33. Consequently, we have decided to hold our August 20th meeting at Glory Days, a restaurant at 620 Pacific Coast Highway, Seal Beach, 90740. The Board Meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the General Meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. An announcement will be placed in the *Periscope* acknowledging that difficulty accessing the base and Bunker 33 have kept members away and urging folks to consider resuming attendance at meetings in a more convenient and safer venue. Further discussion was related to the inconvenience our base leaders find in dealing with Command staff on NWSSB and the uncertainty surrounding our long-term relationship with NWSSB. (See comments below.)

Jeff raised the issue of continued expenditure for off-station storage of our tools/supplies/memorabilia. The expenditure will be presented during the General Meeting for discussion and vote. Dave reminded the Board members that we are working on this problem in steps. The first was to move our gear out of Building 6, which drove us to secure off-station storage. That commitment could last two years as NWSSB completes renovation of two buildings. In 2024, we may be able to occupy space in Building 10 and move out of storage. However, the timeline and NWSSB command commitment are uncertain. Dave will meet with Captain O'Hara and Lt. King late this month to clarify our relationship with the Navy and to determine if we actually will be allowed to use a facility long-term, and when that would occur. With that information we will know if and for how long storage will continue. Darin, who was auditing the Board meeting, offered to inventory and catalog the items we have stored so we will have a tool for deciding whether to keep, donate, or dispose of this material with the goal of reducing the amount stored and the expenditure it requires. Dave moved to establish a Task Group led by Darin to accomplish this cataloging. Mike Swanson seconded, and it passed by voice vote.

There being no topics raised by Good of the Order, Sam Higa moved to adjourn. This was seconded by Mike Swanson and passed by voice vote, ending the meeting at 1100 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dave Vanderveen*

Commander, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI

Filling in for Bill Moak, Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI



## Oregon Commissioned

(concluded from previous page)

The USS *Oregon* is just the second of the Navy's Block IV *Virginia*-class submarines to enter U.S. Navy service. The *Virginias* are multi-mission submarines performing a wide range of missions for the Navy, including mine warfare, intelligence collection, surveillance and reconnaissance—plus irregular warfare, anti-submarine warfare and anti-surface warfare against ships and land targets, and also the delivery of special operations forces.

Given the *Virginia* class's nuclear propulsion, the Navy emphasized the submarine's ability to "operate anywhere at any time, and contribute to regional stability and the preservation of future peace."

Though the Navy is readying for the future *Columbia*-class submarines, that class will not enter service until the 2030s, replacing the Navy's aging *Ohio*-class boomers, tasked with carrying the U.S.'s sea-based nuclear arsenal.

And while the *Virginia*-class is by no means the Navy's newest submarine design, continuous upgrades and the incorporation of new technologies into their capabilities has ensured that each submarine block is progressively more versatile than its predecessors, guaranteeing they will remain a potent undersea force to be reckoned with, one weighing heavily on any potential adversary's mind.

*Caleb Larson is a multimedia journalist and defense writer with The National Interest. Follow him on Twitter @calebmlarson.*



Note that the following e-bulletins from Regional and National appear in these pages in the order received. The most recent information therefore appears toward the back.—ed.

## FOX Traffic: Bulletins from USSVI—Regional and National

*Shipmates and Ladies,*

*Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members. The USSVI website is working (use your last username and password) and it takes less than a minute to complete the ballot. Please do vote!*

*Dave*

From: noreply@ussubvets.org  
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2022  
Subject: National Election Voting  
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, NC

REMINDER! REMINDER!

THE 2022 USSVI NATIONAL ELECTION IS NOW OFFICIALLY OPEN.

Shipmates,

As with some previous elections, all nine national officer positions only have one candidate plus a place for write-ins. But we are asking to please show your interest, support for our organization, and appreciation for the time and energy these shipmates devote to USSVI by participating in the election. Cast your vote.

Online Voting via the newly reconstructed USSVI website—go to and log in to the USSVI website:

<https://bit.ly/3nhfXDe>

Your User ID and Password will be the same as previously used on the old website.

If you have forgotten your password, click on the red "Get Password" button, fill-in the question and it will be sent to you by e-mail if your e-mail address is correct on your profile page.

A green voting button is located third from the top of the left side menu.

Click this button, fill-in, and submit your ballot.

Don't forget PA-2022-1 at the bottom of the ballot.

All the Best,  
Wayne Standerfer  
USSVI National Commander

(continued on next page)

## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

*Shipmates and Ladies,*  
Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members.  
Dave

From: noreply@ussubvets.org  
Date: June 28, 2022  
Subject: *American Submariner* magazine now online  
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

Shipmates,

The ability to upload copies of our *American Submariner* magazine to the newly reconstituted website is still somewhat challenging and continues as a work in progress.

As a temporary workaround, the just-released *American Submariner* Third Quarter issue has been made available on Google Drive.

Please click on or copy and paste the following link into your web browser, which will open this current edition for your viewing.

<https://tinyurl.com/yvewdrfj>

This link is for USSVI Members in good standing only. It is not to be shared with anyone outside of our organization.

All the Best and please take care,  
Wayne Standerfer  
USSVI National Commander

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*Shipmates,*  
Here's information about how to get a paper ballot in case you continue to have difficulty accessing the USSVI website to vote for National Officers.  
Dave

From: Rocky Rockers <rockymt1ss@gmail.com>  
Date: Tuesday, June 28, 2022  
Subject: Fwd: Please forward to your Base Commanders

Thank you,  
Wayne Standerfer

Regional Directors, District Commanders, Base Commanders:

If you or your members need paper ballots, you may photocopy or scan the ballot page in the *American Submariner* and distribute it to the members as necessary.

I knew the current USSVI website would be decommissioned in June, 2022. With that in mind, I did not post a ballot in the Documents section. Fortunately, Tim Carlyle and his team adapted the voting component of the original web site to its current configuration and we can vote online. This occurred approximately three weeks before voting began. Some members copied or removed the voting page from the *American Submariner*. In the interest of uniformity, we will continue to use copied/scanned pages from the magazine as paper ballots.

Remember, members using the paper ballots must continue to complete their own ballots. You may make copies of the ballot and bring them to your base meeting and submit the completed ballots to me as a "package."

(continued on next page)

## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

*(continued from previous page)*

Also remember I must receive any paper ballots by August 10th to allow me time to process any “last minute” ballots. I will discard any ballots I receive after August 15th.

Any question, comments, etc., you may call or email me. Email: [tmconlon@comcast.net](mailto:tmconlon@comcast.net) Cell: 973-493-7075

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*Shipmates and Ladies,*

*Here's a reminder from USSVI regarding the upcoming National Convention.*

*Dave*

From: Fred Marazita <[buffalocon2022@gmail.com](mailto:buffalocon2022@gmail.com)>

Date: Monday, July 4, 2022

Subject: 2022 National Convention

Time is running short to sign up for the National Convention and to reserve your hotel room.

Among the things going on during the Convention not listed on the reservation form or website is the courtesy or “Draft Room,” which supports the USSVI.

During the entire Convention, The Draft Room will be offering \$1.00 off all drinks for subvets in attendance.

And on Thursday night, from 5 PM to 9 PM, they will be recognizing the subvets with a mixer in the Draft Room. In addition to \$1.00 off of all drinks, they will be donating an additional \$1.00 from all purchases to the USSVI Charitable Foundation.

Check them out at their website: <http://www.thedraftroombuf.com/> and plan on having a great time.

See you in The Buff.

Fred “Fritz” Marazita

Buffalo Base - Home of the 2022 USSVI National Convention

Buffalo Base/EN5 District Commander

“Do not interfere with the affairs of Dragons

for you are crunchy and good with ketchup!”

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*Shipmates and Ladies,*

*Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members.*

*Dave*

From: [noreply@ussubvets.org](mailto:noreply@ussubvets.org)

Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2022

Subject: USSVI VSO Newsletter for July, 2022

Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO

Supercharging Military Pay Raises Because of Inflation Being Weighed in Congress

<https://bit.ly/3yNngsD>

Everything You Need to Know About Flag Day

<https://bit.ly/3NPYjBg>

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## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

*(continued from previous page)*

VA Suspending Caregiver Reassessments as it Reviews Program

<https://bit.ly/3P9xEQV>

Estimated Cost of Toxic Exposure Bill More Than One-Quarter Trillion Dollars But Bipartisan Backing Holds

<https://bit.ly/3uv1gAc>

Veterans Swindled by Shuttered For-Profit Corinthian Colleges Get Loan Debt Erased

<https://bit.ly/3yHgzY7>

Veteran Status to Be Considered in Deportations Under New ICE Directive

<https://bit.ly/3P5NOeF>

New VA Benefit Will Sell Guaranteed Life Insurance to Most Veterans

<https://bit.ly/3Rfnfou>

They Are the Good Guys with Guns. After Another Mass Shooting, Veterans Want Change.

<https://bit.ly/3bUwkD4>

VA Ordered to Report Performance of Troubled Health Records System to Congress

<https://bit.ly/3aiXpj4>

What Benefits Are You Eligible for As A Disabled Veteran?

<https://bit.ly/3nHPMFO>

The Top 10 Worst and Best States for Military Veterans and Retirees

<https://bit.ly/3bVqlOe>

VA Offers \$20 Million in Prizes for New Ideas to Reduce Suicides Among Veterans

<https://bit.ly/3P5Lqny>

Senators from Rural States Trying to Stop Wave of VA Hospital Closures Before They Start

<https://bit.ly/3uu4mV8>

Can Veterans Receiving VA Benefits Get Medicaid?

<https://bit.ly/3NPKKSr>

The Top Three VA Loan Myths that Keep Service Members from Using Their Benefit

<https://bit.ly/3bYx0Hq>

Some People May Face Reduced Social Security Benefits

<https://bit.ly/3ORn0hN>

Senate Panel Adds Billions to Defense Budget But the Extra Money Wouldn't Go to Troop Pay Raises

<https://bit.ly/3aooIIH>

Veterans Exposed to Agent Orange, Radiation, Toxic Water Included in Landmark Burn Pit Bill

<https://bit.ly/3IrWRDZ>

VA Weighs Limiting Access to Outside Doctors to Curb Rising Costs

<https://bit.ly/3Az6bnO>

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## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

The Navy Fires Fourth Commander in Seven Days

<https://bit.ly/3uuk3Mf>

Congress Eyes Extra Pay to Counter Wave of Suicides in Alaska and on Ships in the Yard

<https://bit.ly/3yLywFR>

Inflation Bonuses for Troops Make it into Sweeping Defense Bill

<https://bit.ly/3uu9CZY>

This Famous Actor's Secret WWII Program Became a Precursor to the Navy SEALs

<https://bit.ly/3RcR3SO>

Army Requirement for High School Diploma Amid Recruiting Crisis

<https://bit.ly/3yfvOHa>

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*Shipmates and Ladies,*

*Willie Williamson forwarded this newsletter, which has an interesting project involving the City of Phoenix and salvaged parts from ex-USS Phoenix (SSN-702). During yesterday's base meeting, we voted to donate \$100 from L.A.-Pasadena Base to the project. Typically, we would give more, but with the cost of storing our tools/supplies/memorabilia from Building 6 and the fact that we could not conduct our "white elephant" auction fundraiser, we need to be financially careful.*

*Please note that with their "Twenty is Plenty" approach, the project organizers are trying to help folks understand that large donations are not expected from individuals. If your situation and your interest allow, this might be a worthwhile opportunity to support the establishment of a memorial involving Cold War submarines. The choice is entirely your own!*

*Cheers,*

*Dave*

From: Michael Williamson <williess582@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2022

Subject: USS PHOENIX (SSN-702) Appeal in Newsletter

Base Commanders,

I met Lynn Bennett, LCDR (Ret.) at the last USSVI Convention in Orlando. I contributed to their cause then, and feel strong enough about it now to send this solicitation to you on her behalf. (See below.)

Their example of taking on a project of this size could show us how to tackle a similar or smaller-sized one. And we could possibly use similar resources. Lynn is very easy to talk to, and we share many common goals as organizations.

Kindest regards,

Mike "Willie" Williamson

Forwarded from: "USS *Phoenix* (SSN-702) Cold War Monument Foundation" <ussphoenix702@hotmail.com>

Date: July 13, 2022

Subject: USS PHOENIX (SSN-702) Appeal in Newsletter

(continued on next page)

## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

### TWENTY IS PLENTY

Trying to raise over \$2 million for any non-profit investment is a significant challenge. Trying to raise over \$2 million to start construction of a Cold War monument in a downtown Phoenix park is certainly no exception. We have 65 tons of salvaged parts from the nuclear attack boat USS *Phoenix* (SSN-702); we have a City-approved park site on which to build a Cold War monument; we have a City-approved design for the monument, with the salvaged parts anchoring as the centerpiece; and we're deep into a fund-raising effort to begin construction of what will become an exceptional point of pride for Phoenix and the State of Arizona. Our potential sources of funding are pretty traditional: corporations and businesses of all sizes; wealthy persons; military supporters; preservation of history supporters; the general public; grants; and of course, military veterans from all services, especially those veterans who served from 1946 to 1991 during the Cold War.

We are in the midst of planning a "Fall Blitz" campaign to raise awareness about our monument project and solicit small donations from our Arizona veteran population. There are over half a million military vets in Arizona, and we'd like to get in contact with 100,000 of them with an "ask" of \$20 a piece ("Twenty is Plenty!"). We feel like some solid veteran support will lead to better success with companies and wealthy donors. In addition to speaking with as many Phoenix area veterans groups as we can, we're planning to create some newsworthy occasions in the fall to include hanging a very large billboard/mural-type sign in Steele Indian School Park in downtown Phoenix, hosting a special veterans event at a local Mexican restaurant, and organizing a televised visit to our submarine parts, currently stored on public display at the National Guard base in Phoenix.

Please help us connect with veterans and veteran supporters:

- Spread the word—send our newsletter around to your friends!
- Connect us to your favorite veteran groups
- Give us a business lead/Send me an idea
- Help us find a promotional home for our eight-ft. 702 model

Donate Twenty Bucks! See our website at [www.ussphoenixmonument.org](http://www.ussphoenixmonument.org)

Pete Lumianski, Captain, USN(Ret)  
Director, USS *Phoenix* (SSN-702) Cold War Monument

Please visit our website to learn more about us; sign up for our newsletter; and help spread the word with your social media connections via Facebook, Twitter and your favorite other electronic platforms.

### *Our Mission*

We are building a museum monument in Steele Indian School Park in downtown Phoenix which commemorates the role of the nuclear-powered, attack submarines like the USS *Phoenix* (SSN-702) in helping us prevail in the long and tension-filled Cold War. This monument is designed to honor submariners and Cold War Veterans of all services. By creating this monument, we are preserving history, remembering and honoring those who served, while at the same time learning from our Cold War experiences in defending our country's interests and values.

Become part of the Monument – Buy a Brick, Stick a Brick !!

Here's a great way to actually become a part of the monument! We teamed up with Striking Stone, a local Phoenix vendor, to provide an opportunity for you to help us raise money while at the same time commemorating your role as a supporter, submariner, veteran, history buff, community enthusiast, military lover. Simply click the link below, which goes to our website. You have three lines of engraving with 15 characters per line, more than enough to create and personalize a message which will last well beyond your lifetime. Give it a shot! You'll be giving a big boost to our fund-raising effort and making a statement at the same time!

(concluded on next page)



## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(concluded from previous page)

*Shipmates and Ladies,*

*Two topics in this note:*

- 1) Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members.
- 2) Ron Wagner advised us that his email was compromised and warned to NOT OPEN anything asking for help from shipmates. He has fixed the problem and is using his account under new security.

Dave

From: noreply@ussubvets.org <noreply@ussubvets.org>  
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2022  
Subject: Update on New Website  
Submitted by: Tim Carlisle

Good afternoon USSVI,

Here is the latest regarding the website.

Everything is going smoothly with the new website and database—we believe—barring some out-of-the-box, unforeseen issues—we'll complete the project in August, 2022.

In the coming months, we will develop “tools” training for all Base Commanders, Membership Chairs, Treasurers, District Commanders, and above. We still have a bit more training to complete ourselves and will continue to work on this critical item.

The new old, reconstructed site ...

<https://bit.ly/3cvQaot>

... is working very well—for reference purposes, membership editing, and the 2022 National Elections. We have repaired some minor issues, as is expected when rebuilding a site of this magnitude. I also wanted to let you know we installed our digital certificate yesterday (which may have caused some slowdown issues), so now the site shows as secure. We ordered the certificate quite a while ago and just received it. We made a risk-based decision to release the website to serve our members the best we could.

Please bear in mind this site ... <https://bit.ly/3cvQaot> ... has been posted to serve as an interim until the Blackbaud Website is completed and launched.

If you find a bug, fill out this bug report—we'll get to it. Gerry Smith, our webmaster for this site, may reach out to you to test the fix. His email for bug fixes is [ussvi@e911systems.com](mailto:ussvi@e911systems.com). If you have questions, contact me at [ussviweb-sitequestions@gmail.com](mailto:ussviweb-sitequestions@gmail.com). I monitor the email and am happy to answer your questions. Talk to you next month!

Pride Runs Deep,  
Tim Carlisle



## From Our Annual LeRoy Stone Memorial Picnic...



Dave consults the meeting agenda on his phone while the rest of us look on breathlessly. Stan Westrick (f.g., back to camera) sports the most popular t-shirt of the day.

# Take the Plunge!

Send three *American Submariner* subscriptions to your favorite boat!

- Sponsorship is only \$30 a year
- Add a USSVI Calendar for only \$7 more

Mail your check to: **USSVI Boat Sponsorship Program**  
P.O. Box 3870  
Silverdale, WA 98398-3870

Please indicate BSP and the name of the sponsored boat or organization in the memo field of your check

✓ Reach potential new members by sending three annual subscriptions of *American Submariner* to the boat or organization of your choice

✓ First-time sponsors receive a Boat Sponsorship Patch

✓ All sponsors entered into the quarterly Boat Model Giveaway drawing (one entry per sponsorship) — a \$500 value

### SUBMARINES IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

- |                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| USS Columbia (SSN-771)          | USS Montana (SSN-794)        |
| USS Connecticut (SSN-22)        | USS North Dakota (SSN-784)   |
| USS Delaware (SSN-791)          | USS Kentucky Blue (SSBN-737) |
| USS Greenville (SSN-772)        | USS Kentucky Gold (SSBN-737) |
| USS Helena (SSN-725)            | USS Maine Blue (SSBN-741)    |
| USS Hyman G. Rickover (SSN-795) |                              |

### Questions?

Jack Messersmith  
(928) 227-7753  
or e-mail  
MesserJ109@gmail.com





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*In memory  
of the  
fifty-two  
submarines  
lost in  
World War II*

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SEALION	CISCO	HARDER
S-36	S-44	SEAWOLF
S-26	DORADO	DARTER
SHARK I	WAHOO	SHARK II
PERCH	CORVINA	TANG
S-27	SCULPIN	ESCOLAR
GRUNION	CAPELIN	ALBACORE
S-39	SCORPION	GROWLER
ARGONAUT	GRAYBACK	SCAMP
AMBERJACK	TROUT	SWORDFISH
GRAMPUS	TULLIBEE	BARBEL
TRITON	GUDGEON	KETE
PICKEREL	HERRING	TRIGGER
GRENADIER	GOLET	SNOOK
RUNNER	S-28	LAGARTO
R-12	ROBALO	BONEFISH
GRAYLING	FLIER	BULLHEAD
POMPANO		

