



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
Dec. 18th Xmas Luncheon	3
Tolling of the Boats	5
South Korea's New Sub	6
Thresher Mystery Continues	7
Dex Armstrong	10
Chapter News	12
Upcoming Events Calendar	13
USSVI Update Bulletins	14
Sub Crews Stand Down	15
Mail Buoy	21

Editor's Corner

1) As far as I know, USSVI 2022 Submarine Wall Calendars are still available—get 'em while they're hot. (See page 24.)

2) Happy New Year, everyone! While we continue to fight this global COVID scourge, please stay out of crowds, wear your mask and get that booster shot! Be safe!

3) Lead article next time will be about a 100-year-old *Batfish* shipmate who invents toys. Wow!—Jeff

Woman Pleads Guilty After Decades of Doctoring Test Results Regarding Steel Utilized to Make Navy Submarines

(Reproduced from the Blaze Media / News website - published November 8, 2021)

by Alex Nitzberg



Photographer: Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Adam K. Thomas (U.S. Navy via Getty Images.)

Elaine Marie Thomas, 67, plead guilty to fraud following more than thirty years of falsifying the outcomes of strength tests conducted on steel that was utilized to make Navy submarines, according to the Associated Press.

She previously served as the director of metallurgy at a foundry that provided steel castings utilized to create submarine hulls, according to the AP.

"From 1985 through 2017, Thomas falsified the results of strength and toughness tests for at least 240 productions of steel—about half the steel the foundry produced for the Navy, according to her plea agreement, filed Monday in U.S. District Court in Tacoma," the AP noted. "The tests were intended to show that the steel would not fail in a collision or in certain 'wartime scenarios,' the Justice Department said," according to the outlet.

While no hull failures are alleged, authorities said the Navy faced increased costs and maintenance

(concluded on page 22)



BASE COMMANDER - CO

Dave Vanderveen
6061 Broadstone Circle
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
714-374-7349
d.s.vanderveen@hotmail.com

VICE COMMANDER - XO

Ed Barwick
5408 Lanai Street
Long Beach, CA 90808
562-425-6877
edsubvet@gmail.com

SECRETARY - OPS

Bill Moak
2865 Helm Street
Simi Valley, CA 93068
805-581-4419
golfnsurf46@aol.com

TREASURER - WEPS

Mike Swanson
1149 W. Santa Cruz Street
San Pedro, CA 90731
310-832-5981
swanmike@gmail.com

CHIEF OF THE BOAT - COB

Ray Teare
602 E. Mountain View Ave.
Glendora, CA 91741-2765
626-831-5463
rtteare@yahoo.com

MEMORIAL DIRECTOR

Paul Riggs
7708 Rapids Drive
Huntington Beach CA 92648
714-642-1623
parhogh@yahoo.com

IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER

Bill Moak

L.A.-PASADENA BASE WEBSITE

www.socalsubvets.org

The Periscope is a monthly
publication of the
Los Angeles-Pasadena Base of USSVI

Newsletter Editor

Jeff Porteous
15127 Matisse Circle
La Mirada, CA 90638-4733
714-709-6584
jefftytoo@ca.rr.com

From the Wardroom...



Dave Vanderveen,
Base Commander

Shipmates and Ladies,

Though it feels like just a few weeks ago, at this time last year I wrote about how 2020 seemed like a long, unpleasant patrol on a submarine. As I look back on 2021, the patrol is getting better. The Forward Auxiliaryman still can't remember outboard versus inboard, and the COB is still singing show tunes, but at least he only does it in the Goat Locker rather than in the Attack Center. COVID is still dangerous, but much less so and because the latest variant causes only mild symptoms; many in the medical community even indicate it actually increases people's immunity to COVID. I sincerely hope they are right.

The New Year holds many new things for our base as we re-establish ourselves on the Naval Weapons Station, Seal Beach. We will move to a new facility for our meetings early in the year, and new identification credentials will be required for us to access the Station. We will have our work cut out adapting to new display of our extensive memorabilia and storage of our tools and materials used for the World War II Submarine Memorial – West. I am looking forward to resuming our monthly meetings face-to-face, and I believe we will be able to do that in February; more information to come!

Our base continues to be strong, in membership, in our service agenda, and financially. We have 107 members and are actively recruiting "Members-at-Large" in the area to join L.A.-Pasadena. We continue to maintain the Memorial and are in the process of enhancing the entry monument. We will pursue agreement with the command responsible for Southern California Naval facilities to allow us to place the memorial bricks we have engraved. Our participation in the Scouts of America Eagle program is strong, and we anticipate new projects for the Memorial by Eagle candidates. We have already committed to Huntington Beach to participate in their Independence Day Parade, the largest west of the Mississippi River. It will be a busy year!

Many of our World War II submarine veterans are still with us, though they are all in their 90s in age. I urge all of us to stay in contact with these men whose quiet commitment to their work on submarines built the legacy our submarine force enjoys today. They are worthy of our respect for that service and for their role in Navy history. They are among my personal heroes.

Though COVID will eventually recede as the scourge it has been, we ain't there yet. Please continue to take care of your health, and as always, the decision about how much exposure you are willing to risk continues to be your own.

Happy New Year!

Dave Vanderveen

Commander
Los Angeles-Pasadena Base



Xmas Luncheon Sailing List

- Ed & Barbara Barwick
- Herb “Bo” and Susan Bolton
- Tony and Kim de Rosa
- Sam and Anne Higa
- Ken Dorn and Paula Jennings
- Joe Koch
- Jack & Marlene Mahan
- Bill Moak and Kathleen Carder
- Bruce Neighbors
- Mike Swanson
- Ray, Cindy and Tracy Teare
- Dave and Sarah Vanderveen
- Dennis Walsh
- George & Valerie Walwrath
- Michael “Willie” Williamson



Notes on December 18th Christmas Luncheon

Our Base held its annual Holiday Party at the Eagle’s Nest on the Navy Golf Course in Cypress on Saturday, December 18th. It was our first in two years because of constraints related to the COVID pandemic, and it was nice to visit face-to-face again. The food and service quality were a notch better than we saw in previous years, and together with good conversation it made a pleasant afternoon.

After lunch, Dave announced availability of application forms for access to NWSSB and outlined the next steps for completing our agreement with the DoD to resume meeting on the Weapons Station. (As had been discussed in the November General Meeting). He then reminded the group that we have reserved the Tolling of the Boats and their lost crews for the somber Memorial Day Ceremony and similar events and offered positive profiles of Bill Dillon and Harold Staggs for this occasion instead. They are two of our World War II veterans and are wonderful examples of the Greatest Generation. They also tell terrific “Sea Stories”! Bill had been slated for recognition by the Los Angeles Dodgers organization during Game 2 of the recent World Series. Unfortunately, the team never made it that far, but we do have the notes Bill had penned for his “thank you” comments he’d been prepared to offer. Harold, on the other hand, did receive televised recognition for his service and experiences during a recent Los Angeles Chargers game at SoFi Stadium. Several of us were happily surprised to catch him on TV, since we’d had no advance notice of his appearance. Recognition of both these men is well-deserved, and it would be excellent if *all* our WWII submarine veterans could be so publicly revered.

Marlene Mahan, Kathleen Carder, and Kim de Rosa (both with Bill Moak) collaborated on making table decorations and bags of submarine-shaped Christmas cookies. Thank you, ladies! Following good conversation after lunch, we adjourned informally around two o’clock. Mike Swanson squared us away with the restaurant and paid the reservation deposit for 2022’s luncheon. We submariners like to get a head start.

The third Saturday of December, ’22 had already been booked by a group of 150, with all three banquet rooms to be used by them, so Mike reserved the corner room for L.A.-Pasadena Base on the second Saturday, December 10th. Of course, *many* reminders will be provided in fourth quarter, and perhaps we can have a larger turnout next year. This year, we had twenty-seven attendees, all of whom enjoyed their afternoon.

Cheers,

Dave Vanderveen

Commander
Los Angeles-Pasadena Base

January Mtg. to be a Zoom Conference

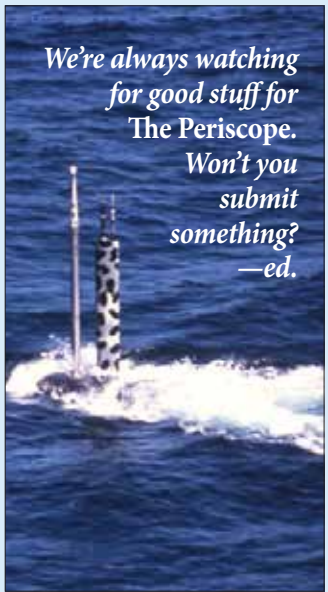
Jan. Meeting

Date: Jan. 15, 2022

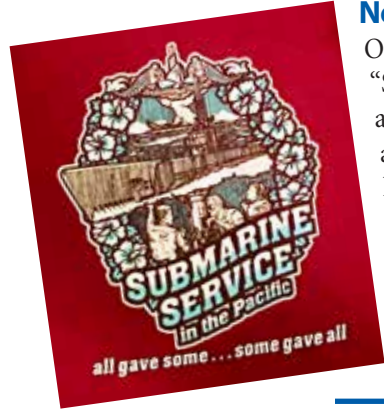
Again this month, our usual base meeting will be conducted via Zoom. With Building 6 still off limits and no new on-base venue firmly established, this could remain our meeting status for awhile yet. But be of good cheer: wheels are now turning to put us back on the base, perhaps in Building 16. Stay tuned!

Base Birthdays in January...

- We hereby extend the happiest of wishes to all our L.A.-Pasadena Base birthday celebrants!
- Ron Levenson..... 1/3
 - Bob Schive..... 1/3
 - RJ Hansen..... 1/18
 - Ace Van Devender..... 1/20
 - Sam Higa..... 1/26
 - Larry Smith..... 1/30



Ship's Store

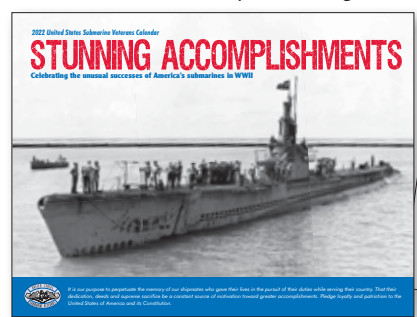


New Reduced Price on T-Shirts!

Our ever-popular L.A.-Pasadena Base "Submarine Service" tees are once again selling like fresh whites after a fall down the pump room hatch! Now a mere **ten bucks** apiece, there's no reason not to have a closetful. Contact Jack Mahan for yours, or just bring a few extra bucks to the next meeting, you skinflint!

2022 Calendars Now Available!

To order, click here: <https://bit.ly/3sM60PX>. Or see details elsewhere in this issue. Don't miss out—they're selling fast!



Get in touch with our Storekeeper, Jack Mahan, at 714-349-5878 for more purchasing information.



USSVI Logo Patch
(9¾ x 6¾)
\$11.00 ea.



L.A.-Pasadena Base Patch
(3¾ x 5)
\$5.00 ea.



Holland Club Member Patch (3x3)
\$6.00 ea.

LOS ANGELES - PASADENA BASE

2022 FLOWER FUND and BOOSTER CLUB

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

Wouldn't You Like to See Your name Listed Here?



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

JANUARY TOLLING OF THE BOATS



USS SCORPION (SS-278)



USS ARGONAUT (SS-166)



USS SWORDFISH (SS-193)

USS SCORPION (SS-278)

Lost on January 5, 1944 in the East China Sea during her fourth war patrol. Seventy-seven officers and men were lost. It is assumed *Scorpion* struck a mine.

USS ARGONAUT (SS-166)

Lost on January 10, 1943 off Rabaul during her third war patrol. *Argonaut* had torpedoed a destroyer as part of her attack on a Japanese convoy, but it survived to depth charge her in coordination with two other escorting destroyers. Forced to the surface, *Argonaut* was then sunk by escort gunfire. She went down with 102 officers and men.

USS SWORDFISH (SS-193)

Lost on January 12, 1945 somewhere near Okinawa during her thirteenth war patrol. Eighty-nine officers and men perished. *Swordfish* was probably lost to a mine.

USS S-36 (SS-141)

Lost on January 20, 1942—with no loss of life—on her second war patrol. She ran aground on a reef and radioed for rescue; a Dutch ship soon picked up her crew. S-36 was then scuttled to keep her from falling into enemy hands.

USS S-26 (SS-131)

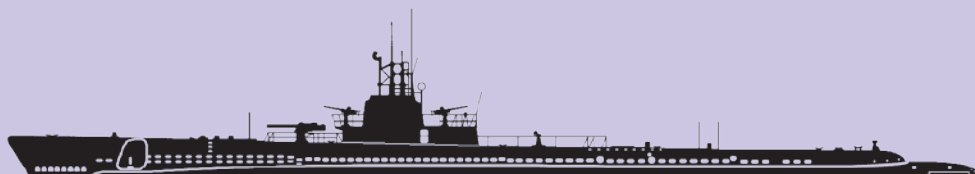
Lost on January 24, 1942 in the Gulf of Panama during her second war patrol. She was accidentally rammed by the USS PC-460 and sank within seconds. The CO, XO and one lookout on her bridge survived—all forty-six other officers and men were lost.



USS S-36 (SS-141)



USS S-26 (SS-131)



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

South Korea's New 3,000-Ton Ballistic Missile Submarine Goes Active in 2024

Now it has three.

(Reproduced from the Interesting Engineering website - originally published September 28, 2021.)

by Brad Bergan



The new ballistic missile submarine. (South Korea Navy / RoKN)

Major powers of the world are rearming. And South Korea has launched a new 3,000-ton submarine that can fire ballistic missiles, in the third locally-built major addition to the powerhouse nation, according to a statement from the country's Navy, in an initial *Korea Times* report.

And that makes three ballistic missile submarines for South Korea.

The novel submarine's launch ceremony went off without a hitch at the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. shipyard in the city of Ulsan, on the southeast section of South Korea. The new boat was named after a Korean independence activist, *Shin Chae-ho*, and it represents the third and final of three *Changbo-go*-III Batch-I submarines the country has developed without outsourcing technologies, in a project that cost roughly \$2.77 billion. All three of the new boats can fire submarine-launched

ballistic missiles (SLBMs). The first one of its class was launched in 2018, and was deployed in August. The second one, called the *Ahn Mu*, left port in November 2020 for tests, and will be received by the Korean navy next year, according to officials, reports *Korea Times*.

The new submarine is 31.5 ft. (9.6 m) wide and 274 ft. (83.5 m) long, and can carry fifty crew members underwater for twenty days without surfacing, according to the country's Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA), which also said the new boat will be delivered to the Navy in 2024, following extensive test operations. "The submarine has a strong capability of deterring provocations as it can be equipped with SLBMs test-fired earlier this month," said the Navy in a release, according to the report. "Some 76 percent of its parts are locally produced, which allows for maintenance and other technological support in a timely manner."

(concluded on page 22)

Questions About Infamous Lost Sub Resurface as Navy Releases New Documents Tied to Decades-Old Mystery

(Reproduced from the Military.com website - originally published August 14, 2021.)

by Konstantin Toropin



Capt. Thomas Ishee, commander of Submarine Squadron (SUBRON) 11, delivers remarks during a memorial service for the 50th anniversary of the loss of the U.S. Navy submarine USS Thresher (SSN-593). The ceremony honored the 129 men lost on Thresher, which sank off the coast of Cape Cod April 10, 1963, during sea trials. (Kyle Carlstrom/U.S. Navy.)

Almost sixty years have gone by since the *Thresher*, then the Navy's newest nuclear-powered submarine, plummeted to the bottom of the sea during a deep-dive test. Now, recently declassified documents are adding to the confusion and debate around the service's deadliest submarine loss.

Documents released by the Navy in July describe a series of events aboard the submarine *Seawolf*—one of the ships that was searching the area after communications were lost with the *Thresher* on April 10, 1963. The *Seawolf* heard a series of sounds that have led to speculation that the *Thresher's* crew may have been alive longer than previously thought.

However, experts on the submarine's sinking dismiss the possibility.

"You could see the men on the *Seawolf* hoping against hope, thinking the sound might be some survivors and recording them," Chris Drew, author of a book that investigated the incident, *Blind Man's Bluff*, and a former military journalist, explained. "There's a lot of sounds in the ocean."

The *Thresher* sank with 129 men aboard. In its wake, the Navy created a submarine safety program, SUBSAFE, to ensure that future submarine hulls would stay watertight and that they can recover from unanticipated flooding.

The new documents show that the *Seawolf* arrived in the area the *Thresher* was believed to have sunk on the morning of April 11, 1963, just over twenty-four hours after the sub disappeared. The declassified log shows that, over a series of four dives, the submarine reported hearing various pings and sounds it thought might be the missing *Thresher*.

At one point, the *Seawolf* broadcast: "We hear your underwater telephone. If you will send five dashes we will have positive identification—send five dashes." There is no report of five dashes being received, but the *Seawolf* continued to try to get a fix on the source of the pings.

About halfway through its search, the submarine reported a "total of 37 pings heard counted."

(continued on page 8)

Decades-Old *Thresher* Mystery Continues

(continued from page 7)



USS Thresher (SSN-593) at sea on July 24, 1961. (U.S. Navy photo from collections of the Naval History and Heritage Command.)

The *Seawolf* also reported sailors “may hear very weak voice” over their underwater receivers. They asked for a repeat of the message, but one was never received.

On one dive, the *Seawolf* reported metal on metal banging heard on sonar. In between requests to “bang five times on hull,” the submarine reported hearing more bangs, but a later entry conceded “he does not give us number asked for.”

The log also notes that what the sailors were hearing “could be sounds from [destroyers] in vicinity.”

Crushed by Ocean Pressure

Unbeknownst to the *Seawolf* at the time, every major investigation has concluded that, by the time it began its first dive search, the *Thresher* had already been crushed by the ocean pressure after sinking to 2,400 feet—400 feet past what its hull could take.

Norman Polmar, an author and naval analyst who wrote the book *Death of the USS Thresher*, discounts the possibility that what the *Seawolf* heard was surviving sailors in a still intact *Thresher*.

“I don’t believe it,” Polmar flatly told Military.com in an inter-

view. He points to the recordings from the Navy’s underwater Sound Surveillance System, or SOSUS, as key evidence in forming his opinion.

“We know from the SOSUS tapes ... that the submarine imploded,” he said. “If it imploded, that means they collapsed inward. Everyone died instantly—there was no clanging on the metal.”

Drew also pointed out that it’s highly unlikely the submarine could still float, or have positive buoyancy.

“[The *Thresher*] couldn’t have just been maintaining positive buoyancy and nobody can find them,” he told Military.com in an interview.

Drew noted that both the *Seawolf* and the surface ships that were part of the search-and-rescue efforts all had sonar systems.

“If a massive submarine is sitting at 1,000- to 2,000-foot deep for a day, don’t you think sonar would have picked it up?” he asked. “It doesn’t make any sense.”

Unsurvivable Waters

Drew, who co-authored Robert Ballard’s recently released

(concluded on page 9)

Decades-Old *Thresher* Mystery Continues

(concluded from page 8)

memoir *Into the Deep: A Memoir From the Man Who Found Titanic*, said the famed undersea archaeologist, who surveyed the *Thresher* wreck shortly before he located the *Titanic*, confirmed that the submarine sank in unsurvivable deep waters.

“[Ballard] said it was far enough from the continental shelf that it just went straight down and then once they got a little past crush depth ... that was it,” Drew said.

Both Drew and Polmar noted that there could be any number of explanations for what the *Seawolf* crew heard and reported in 1963.

“You can be 500 miles from something and, because [of] underwater currents, the temperature gradients and other things, hear something that’s 500 miles away,” Polmar said.

He was quick to note, though, that “it might have been the other ships and submarines that were in the area.”

In fact, one entry in the *Seawolf* report notes several times that other Navy ships in the area were making noises that made it difficult to listen for sounds from the *Thresher*.

The newly released details also draw attention to the fact that disagreement remains on what initially caused the *Thresher* to lose power and sink.

The Navy’s official position is that an inadequate welding technique caused a pipe to fail on the submarine.

Retired Vice Adm. Ron Thunman, who commanded the *Thresher*’s sister sub, the *Plunger*, summed up the Navy position in an oral history interview in 2012.

“A pipe ruptured, and the spray grounded the electrical systems. ... It caused the reactor to [shut down],” Thunman said.

In addition, the Navy later learned that if you try to blow a submarine’s ballast tanks from that deep a depth, as the *Thresher* did, the air piping would cause ice to form and prevent the sub from surfacing.

“So, [the *Thresher*’s commander] had no propulsion; he had no blow system, and they lost the ship,” he said.

Thunman went on to become Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, and he was the officer who ordered Ballard to survey the *Thresher* wreck in the 1980s as part of an agreement that also gave the oceanographer funding to find the site of the *Titanic*.

Electrical Failure?

However, Polmar, along with Bruce Rule, wrote an analysis in *Navy Times* in 2013, on the 50th anniversary of *Thresher*’s loss,

arguing for a different cause for the power failure.

Rule was the analyst who studied the recordings related to the loss of the *Thresher* and testified before the Navy’s court of inquiry on the incident. He went on to serve as the lead acoustic analyst in the Office of Naval Intelligence for forty-two years, retiring in 1992.

Rule and Polmar argued that acoustic evidence indicated that an electrical failure, not a leak or flooding, caused the reactor’s coolant pumps to shut down.

Polmar, who once spoke with the *Thresher*’s first commander, Dean Axene, said the naval officer told him that one of the *Thresher*’s final messages to ships on the surface supports his theory.

Shortly before contact was lost, the *Thresher* sent a message that read: “Experiencing minor difficulty, have positive up-angle, attempting to blow.”

Polmar told *Military.com* that Axene said “the only thing that he could think of at test depth, 1,300 feet, that he would describe as a minor difficulty, was a reactor shutdown because that happened periodically, not regularly, but every now and then, and there was a procedure for restarting it.”

Rule, in an open letter to Navy leadership in 2013, wrote that the message was “evidence those difficulties did not involve flooding with the catastrophic effects such flooding is known to create at great depth.”

Those still passionate about answering all the questions about the *Thresher*, including former naval officers and family members of the crew, hope to get more answers as the Navy releases more documents.

Ultimately, neither Polmar nor Drew feel that the revelations of the sounds heard by the *Seawolf* change their understanding of the submarine’s sinking.

Drew said the new details are “very intriguing, alluring” but ultimately a footnote in the larger *Thresher* saga.

Polmar said he “wouldn’t even give it that much credit.”

In 2019, a memorial to the *Thresher*’s crew was unveiled at Arlington National Cemetery.

“Their sacrifice will now rightfully be memorialized at our nation’s most hallowed grounds beside tributes here to generations of fallen heroes,” Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, D-N.H., said at the time.

Konstantin Toropin can be reached at konstantin.toropin@military.com. Follow him on Twitter @ktoropin.

Dress Canvas Topside

by Bob “Dex” Armstrong

In the smokeboat service, there was a marked absence of formal ceremony. It was called the “Dungaree Navy” and it didn’t care a whole helluva lot for “peacock strutting” or doing the dance of the fifty doo-dahs for visiting surface royalty and transient brass. We took care of our own—took care of business and let the other elements of the forces afloat do whatever it was they did.

We had no ritualized “uniform of the day.” Our uniform of the day was simply whatever you had in your bunk or side locker that didn’t smell like a saddle blanket off a billy goat.

We wore black hightop boondocks known on *Requin* as “Mammy Yokums” after the weird boots worn by the old weatherbeaten granny in the Snuffy Smith hillbilly comics. Some lads from out west wore cowboy boots called “shit-kickers.” I wore Mammy Yokums... Alcatraz loafers.

They were fairly watertight, damned near indestructible, and created a fashion statement that drove the *Orion* Master at Arms utterly nuts. If you wanted instant entertainment, you just carried a message up to some clown in the *Orion* wardroom decked out in a faded dungaree shirt with the sleeves rolled up, a non-regulation wool ball cap with Dolphins pinned in front, red lead-spattered Mammy Yokums, and acid-eaten dungaree pants:

“Hold up, son, where in the hell do you think *you’re* going?”

“Officer’s Country, Chief...”

“Jeezus Christ! You look like you crawled out of the ragbag! You ever hear of ‘uniform of the day?’”

“Heard about it... Not sure I know what’n the hell it is.”

“Well horsefly, it ain’t what you’re decked out in. Take my word.”

“Well, it passes for the daily uniform in the operating, go-to-sea Navy.”

“Son, there’s no gahdam way you’re entering our wardroom dressed for the ragpicker’s ball.”

“Okay with me... Let me give you this message from my skipper, and I’ll tell our Old Man that the tender fashion police nabbed me and will handle our boat business... Here, this goes to Captain Rice, SUBRON Six.”

“Hell, I don’t want that... Listen horsefly, I’m going to pretend I never saw you. You don’t know me. I don’t know you. Just haul your raggedy ass out of my sight. Son, if anyone asks you what navy you’re in, do me a favor and tell them you’re a Mexican Sea Scout.”

In the pre-nuke days, it was easy to identify a boat sailor: he always had little light yellow dots in the crown of his white hat, readily identified as hydraulic oil, which previously belonged to some overhead operating vent gear. You could wash the damn thing with Clorox and never get it all out.

On rare occasions, we would form up topside aft of the conning tower fairwater in dress canvas: Class “A” uniform, shined shoes, regulation neckerchief, and clean white hats. We looked sharp. Any sailor who tells you he didn’t feel thirty feet tall and bulletproof standing topside where God and all the *Orion* brown-baggers could see his Dolphins and how proud he felt... must be one cold-hearted sonuv-abitch.

I remember a visit by Vice Admiral Elton W. Grenfell, COMSUBLANT... The Big Sea Daddy of the East Coast Underwater Navy. Admiral Grenfell was the gent camped out on the apex of the submarine big cheese pyramid of our force. He was a great sailor who took care of his bluejackets.

I was a sideboy when he arrived. Stokes, our skivvy-waver (signalman), piped him aboard.

After the admiral was aboard and the customary wardroom greetings had been exchanged with handshakes all around, they dismissed the sideboys and we took our place in the two rows of ranks assembled aft. We were sharp and silent. All you could hear was the gentle popping of the ensign aft, the nylon Squadron Six pennant (burgee), and the Division 62 pennant. Funny, I can always recall the sound of that gentle popping nylon... Day or Night topside watch, always that light snapping in the breeze. It’s the “common denominator” in my memory. It was a big part of the life I loved. Cups of coffee shared with my forever-mates and nylon popping.

Admiral Grenfell passed down our ranks...

“What’s your name, son?”

“Stuke, sir.”

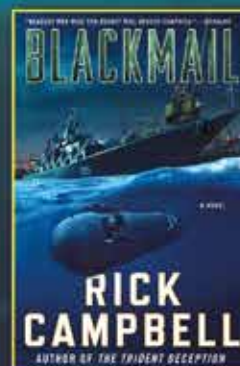
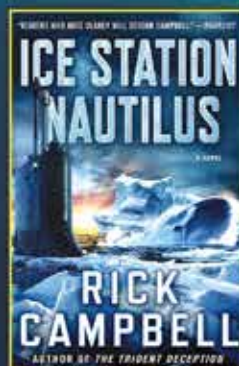
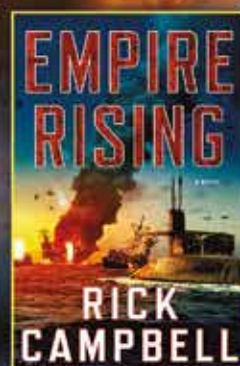
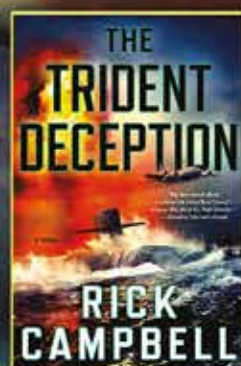
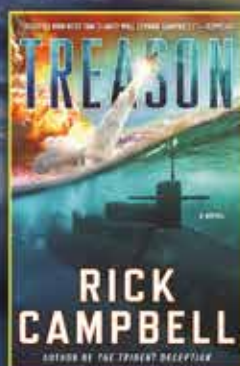
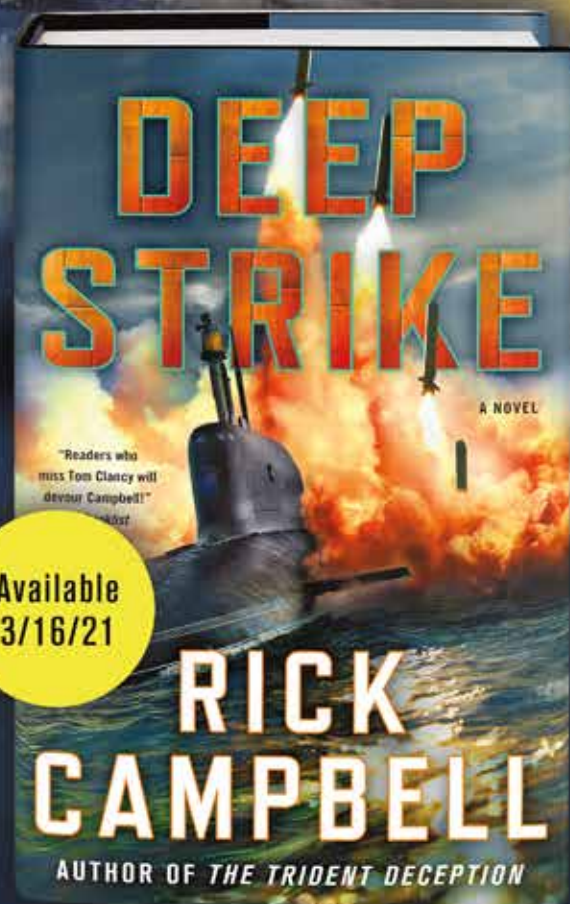
“Where are you from?”

(concluded on page 23)

"Readers who miss Tom Clancy will devour Campbell." —*Booklist*
WHO WILL STRIKE FIRST IN A RACE TO STOP A ROGUE RUSSIAN
SUBMARINE FUNDED BY ISIS FROM HITTING AMERICAN SOIL?

DEEP STRIKE

NOW IN PAPERBACK!



PRAISE FOR THE WORK OF NAVY COMMANDER (USN RETIRED) RICK CAMPBELL:

"Compelling and thrilling." —JACK COUGHLIN, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Shooter*

"A fistfight of a thriller. A masterpiece." —DALTON FURY, former Delta Force and *New York Times* bestselling author of *Kill Bin Laden*

"The best submarine novel since Tom Clancy's *The Hunt for Red October*." —*Booklist* (starred review)

"Fans of submarine thrillers will welcome Campbell." —*Publishers Weekly*

DEEP STRIKE — RELEASES MARCH 16, 2021 TO BOOKSTORES EVERYWHERE
(PRE-ORDER OR PURCHASE WHERE YOU BUY YOUR BOOKS — HARDCOVER, EBOOK, OR AUDIOBOOK)

New Members

We proudly welcome aboard our newest base shipmates:

Charles R. Hinman

(Associate Member)

Wife: Keito

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

40 Cedar Walk, Unit 2414

Long Beach, CA 90802-7927

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

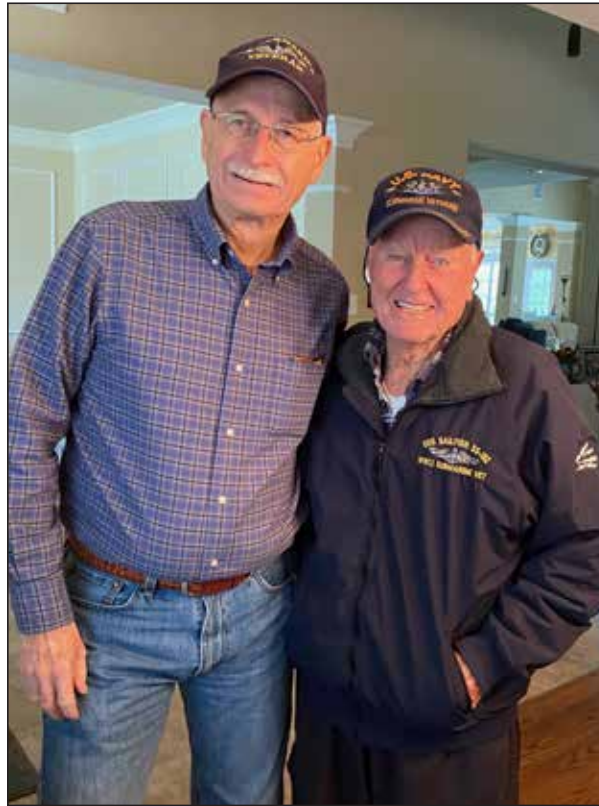
Qualified in 1998 on the USS

City of Corpus Christi (SSN-705)



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

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



L.A.-Pasadena Base's old friend Phil Jaskoviak got together for a long chat with our own Bill "Skippy" Dillon a few weeks back. More on that meeting to come...



Meanwhile, Bill Moak stopped in on Mark Maynard not long ago too, and got all caught up. Smiles all around. We sure do miss Mark around here!



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

*(75-year members noted with *)*

- Larry D. Long2021
- G. Judson “Jud” Scott, Jr....2021
- Edward E. Kushins2020
- Bruce Evan Neighbors2020
- David H. Vanderveen2019
- Philip J. Jaskoviak.....2019
- Dennis Bott2018
- James A. Burnett.....2018
- Robert “Mike” Cailor2018
- Robert Miller.....2018
- John A. Anderson2017
- Roger C. Dunham, MD....2017
- Richard McPherson2017
- Harry “Bill” Moak2017
- Louis A. Myerson2017
- Elliot Rada2017
- Ronald G. Wagner2017
- Dennis J. Walsh.....2017
- Michael Kish.....2016
- Gary Wheaton2016
- Lawrence R. Butler2015
- Samuel T. Higa2015
- Harry P. Ross2015
- Stephen C. Rowe2015
- Charles H. Senior2015
- Larry E. Smith2015
- Sam Aboulafia2014
- David Palagyi.....2014
- Earl Thomas Peratt, Jr.2014
- David D. Semrau, DDS2014
- Ray Tracy Teare.....2014
- Milton Harry Boudov2013

(concluded next page)



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

- January 15: Monthly Meeting via Zoom Conference
- February 19: Monthly Meeting
- March 19 Monthly Meeting - “Spring Fling”
- April 16 Monthly Meeting
Call for Memorial Day Prep Volunteers
- May 21 Field Day at the Memorial Site - 0900
Monthly Meeting
Nominating Committee Appointed
Call for participants in the
Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade
- May 28? Field Day at the Memorial Site - 0900
- May 30 Memorial Day Service - 1100
Submarine Memorial, West
- June 18 Monthly Meeting - Annual “Steakfest”
Call for 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 Meeting - “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)

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
Bernard M. Kauderer 2008
Paul A. Riggs..... 2008
Rex L. Shields..... 2008
John L. Von Ulmen 2008
Francis R. Traser..... 2006
Melquiades Mares, Jr. 2005
Ronald K. Thompson..... 2004
Michael Varalyai 2004
Hughie T. Blackwell..... 2003
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
*Clifford Bernard Murr ... 1996
*Royal Harrison, Jr..... 1995
*Sterling F. Higgins 1995
*Robert Clair Koplín..... 1995
*Mark Maynard..... 1994
*William J. Dillon..... 1993
*Harold Staggs..... 1992



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**

From: "USSVI POC: William C. Andrea" <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: November 30, 2021
Subject: Charitable Foundation bulletin
Submitted by: Ken Earls, CF Exec. Dir. & Treasurer

Shipmates:

The first Tuesday after Thanksgiving has become known as #GivingTuesday. This is a day to recognize the charitable organizations which you support. Over the past few years, this day has become a significant source of fundraising for virtually every charitable nonprofit, including your U.S. Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation. (<https://bit.ly/3lrBd8N>)

Many of you know about our Scholarship Fund activity, which has awarded nearly 1,000 scholarships over the past several years. In the past two years alone we have awarded 115 scholarships totaling \$225,000.

Our Brotherhood Fund has supported many shipmates in need with disbursements in excess of \$75,000 over the past ten years.

Our Kap(SS4Kid(SS) program has visited over 25,000 children in the past several years.

Please take a little time to view these two videos which highlight two programs we currently have in progress:

Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) DVD.mp4

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

I am asking you to support your Charitable Foundation on this #GivingTuesday. Please go to <https://bit.ly/3lrK4qT> and make a donation to a fund of your choice. The amount you donate should be based on your own personal situation; any amount helps and we appreciate all donations. Or, if you prefer, please mail a check to:

USSVCF
P.O. Box 3870
Silverdale, WA 98383-3870

Thank you,
Ken Earls
Executive Director & Treasurer
Charitable Foundation
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.
kenearls.ss@gmail.com
541-879-3038 - Home
928-308-4488 - Mobile

(continued on next page)

Navy Sub Crews Told to Stand Down After Preventable Collision in Pacific

(Reproduced from the Military.com website—published Nov. 18, 2021.)

by Konstantin Toropin



The Seawolf-class fast-attack sub USS Connecticut departs Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Washington, for sea trials following a maintenance availability. (Thiep Van Nguyen II/U.S. Navy photo.)

The Navy has ordered all submarine crews to conduct a navigation stand down—a period of additional training—after an underwater collision damaged a sub in the South China Sea last month.

Cmdr. Paul Macapagal, a spokesman for the commander of all submarine forces, said crews will be reviewing lessons learned from the USS *Connecticut* collision as well as the Navy's existing rules on sound navigation practices.

This will include the “required procedures in navigation planning, operations, risk management and best practices,” he said in a phone interview.

Vice Adm. William Houston and Rear Adm. Jeffrey Jablon, the Navy's top two submarine commanders, released a joint message ordering the stand down Wednesday, but

(continued on next page)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

Shipmates and Ladies,

Huzzah!!!

We will be able to meet again soon on Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, most likely in February. I'm still engaged with the Facilities Manager to complete paperwork required by the recent Inspector General's Report.

While the Base was closed to us during the pandemic, a new access requirement was enacted. Of course, those with active duty or retired identification can already access the Weapons station, but the rest of us must apply for a “Local Population Access Pass” which requires a background check. The link to the application form is included below. Our sponsor is Jazmin Atencia, who is on Captain Sherman's staff. We will no longer be allowed to present an attendees list to Weapons Station Security; each person must show the new pass or military-issued identification.

Many of you live way outside the Los Angeles area, but I included you in this distribution in case you're in the area on the third Saturday some month and want to drop by our meeting!

Please complete the application and send it to me at lapasadenabase@gmail.com or 6061 Broadstone Circle Huntington Beach, CA 92648. I will deliver them to the pass office so they can begin their process. The agent in the pass office warned me each application MUST include the Social Security Number. BTW, if you can't open the link I have paper copies. I'll take several to the Christmas Party on Saturday, but if you don't attend that I can mail one to you. Just let me know if you need it.

Cheers,
Dave

(Below is the base communication exchange leading up to Dave's note to us above. Also, his link didn't work for me so Dave graciously sent me a scan of the form I could print, fill out and snailmail back to him.—ed.)

From: Atencia, Jazmin CIV USN NAVWPNSTA SLB CA (USA) <jazmin.atencia@navy.mil>

Date: Fri., Dec. 10, 2021

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Building 16

To: Dave Vanderveen <lapasadenabase@gmail.com>

Mr. Vanderveen,

I apologize for the delay in getting back to you. Our computer systems were recently upgraded which caused some issues with PDFs. Attached is the current SECNAV 5512/1 form. I hope this one works. Please complete the form and I will submit it to Pass & ID to request access. I can escort a limited number of personnel once cleared. Once we have a finalized agreement, we can add other members as necessary.

Please note that in addition to vetting requirements, all visitors requesting access to facilities will need to attest to their current vaccination status.

Once we hear back from security, we can set a date for a tour of Bldg. 16.

(continued on next page)

Sub Crews Stand Down

(continued from previous page)

Macapagal emphasized that it will not impact submarine operations.

The USS *Connecticut*, a *Seawolf*-class submarine, struck an unidentified seamount or underwater mountain on Oct. 2. The boat has since sailed to Guam, where it is undergoing a damage assessment, repairs and testing, Cmdr. Cindy Fields, a spokeswoman for the Pacific Submarine Force, told Military.com in a statement.

The collision also led the Navy to fire the boat's top two officers and its highest enlisted sailor.

Vice Adm. Karl Thomas, commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet, relieved Cmdr. Cameron Aljilani as commanding officer, Lt. Cmdr. Patrick Cashin as executive officer, and Master Chief Sonar Technician Cory Rodgers as chief of the boat, due to "loss of confidence."

The Navy has not released details about the nature of the damage the collision caused to the *Connecticut*.

An earlier statement from the Navy noted that an investigation determined the *Connecticut* "grounded on an uncharted seamount while operating in international waters in the Indo-Pacific region."

The investigation also found that "sound judgement, prudent decision-making, and adherence to required procedures in navigation planning, watch team execution and risk

(concluded on next page)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

V/R,
Jazmin Atencia
N5 | Plans, Programs & Readiness Integrator
Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach
Desk: 562-626-7016
Cell: 562-668-6169

From: Dave Vanderveen <lapasadenabase@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021
To: Atencia, Jazmin CIV USN NAVWPNSTA SLB CA (USA) <jazmin.atencia@navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Building 16

Ms. Atencia,

I'd like to access the Station so I can take a look at Bldg. 16 and to chat with you about storage and display of our submarine memorabilia when you are able to arrange that visit.

Also, now that Captain Sherman has approved Los Angeles-Pasadena Base being on NWSSB, I'd like to get the application form our folks need to complete for the new identification card. The link you sent last month doesn't open.

Many thanks,
Dave Vanderveen

Shipmates and Ladies,

Our shipmates at Bonefish Base have formalized their effort to honor submarine veterans on Eternal Patrol whose services are conducted at Riverside National Cemetery. Please take a look at the attachment. A number of our L.A.-Pasadena members have received this honor at RNC and we have participated with Bonefish Base in rendering it. It's moving.

Included in Daryl's note is a guide for those who want to request honors for their family member recently departed on Eternal Patrol. If you need additional help, you can contact me at lapasadenabase@gmail.com.

Regards,
Dave

From: Daryl Brock <bonefishbasecob@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 12, 2021
Subject: Bonefish Base Honor Detail

We have been asked over the past few months to have some of our members in attendance at Riverside National Cemetery for services for USSVI members departing on Eternal Patrol. We have been honored to do so, and it seems that they have been well received and appreciated. We have stood for our shipmate and his family, and at the end of the service tolled our ship's bell seven times, and rendered a final salute. The attached script is the basis for that, and has been read by a family representative before the tolling.

As a result, yesterday we formalized our Honor Detail, and are offering our services to any USSVI member where the family wishes this honor to be rendered at RNC. The only thing we need is to know the family desires us to be there, and the date and time of the service. We will meet briefly with the family at the staging area and will be at the shelter for the full

(continued on next page)

Sub Crews Stand Down

(concluded from previous page)

management could have prevented the incident.”

The Navy said that the submarine will eventually return to Bremerton, Washington, for repairs.

Konstantin Toropin can be reached at konstantin.toropin@military.com. Follow him on Twitter @ktoropin.



PRIDE RUNS DEEP



Ad Still Here by
Popular Demand!



Just the Place for Killer MidRats!

Hey, know anyone on boats out of New London? Or, planning a visit to Groton yourself? Drop anchor at this local dive: **Wings'n'Pies** at 924 Route 12, just down the road from the Base's Main Gate. Your editor enjoys firsthand knowledge that the pizzas here are some of the tastiest and sloppiest around. Forget those extra napkins—just wipe your greasy fingers on your shirt and they'll think you've been hanging out with the A-Gang!

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

service, performing honors at the end of the ceremony.

I would appreciate it if you could convey this information to all of your members. It would help if their families were also aware of this option. Should you have any questions, please contact me. I am at this time the coordinator for the Honor Detail of Bonefish Base. Email is probably the best way to contact me, but my home phone number is (951) 784-3882, and it has an answering machine for messages. My Bonefish email is bonefishbasecob@gmail.com, and my personal email is debrock3061@sbcglobal.net.

We have also had two members of Trieste Base volunteer to be a part of this, and we welcome them. If any of your members wish to be included we would welcome them too. At this time, all notifications are being done by email, so I would need the name and email address to add them to the notification list.

Thank you for your consideration. I consider this another Submariners for Submariners honor. We are honored to be able to do this.

Daryl E. Brock
Bonefish Base USSVI
Chief of the Boat

(The following was included with Daryl's communication above.—ed.)

At each funeral or memorial service for a submarine veteran, the Honor Guard tolls the Bell seven times, with seven seconds between each toll. These tolls represent the many stages in a veteran's life. Each toll has a specific meaning:

Toll One: The Choice to Serve

This toll represents the veteran's willingness to sacrifice their life for their country, a dedication to which few are called.

Toll Two: Camaraderie

The second toll represents the friendships, family, and unity that bond all service members together.

Toll Three: Patriotism

The third toll represents the veteran's pride in their country, a duty to protect it, and the joy in celebrating the freedoms enshrined in our Constitution.

Toll Four: Respect

The fourth toll represents the respect given to a veteran by their community, earned by them and owed by us, for their service.

Toll Five: Dignity

The fifth toll represents the dignity with which a veteran's community treats their fallen hero.

(continued on next page)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

Toll Six: Honor

The sixth toll represents the honor that is due to a veteran when they have died, given by their fellow service members and community.

Toll Seven: The Value of Life

The seventh toll represents the ultimate sacrifice that the veteran has made. Whether killed in action, or after long years of quiet service, the value of a veteran cannot be adequately described by words alone.

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

From: "USSVI POC: William C. Andrea" <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: December 21, 2021
Subject: National Commander Message
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

The USSVI National Board of Directors would like to convey our warmest thoughts and best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Please take time during this holiday season to pause and reflect on the past year, spend precious time with your loved ones, and focus your thoughts on the important things that give our lives meaning as we move forward into 2022.

All the best and please take care,

Wayne Standerfer
National Commander

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

From: USSVI POC: William C. Andrea <NJVC@USSVI.ORG>
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021
Subject: USSVI VSO news for December, 2021
Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO on 12/21/2021

Disabled Veterans to See Largest Pay Raise in Decades for 2022
<https://bit.ly/3ySW4qP>

See Your 2022 VA Disability Pay Rates
<https://bit.ly/3svrp1F>

DFAS Retiree Newsletter December 2021
<https://bit.ly/3EhRYd6>

You Soon Will Be Able to Renew Your Passport Online, Get Through TSA Quickly
<https://bit.ly/3pjgaYk>

(continued on next page)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

A New Program Promises More Pay and Perks for Sailors to Stay at Sea

<https://bit.ly/33Rl5r5>

Damaged Navy Attack Submarine Arrives in San Diego After Surface Voyage from Guam

<https://bit.ly/32qm1Su>

Troops Booted for Refusing Vaccine Guaranteed at Least a General Discharge Under Defense Bill

<https://bit.ly/3En7yE6>

Shipmates and Ladies,

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

Dave

From: USSVI POC: William C. Andrea <NJVC@USSVI.ORG>

Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021

Subject: This just in VSO

Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO

After three years, Walmart is leaving TRICARE'S pharmacy network due to its reluctance to offer more highly competitive discounts to military health beneficiaries. At the same time, CVS Pharmacy will return to the TRICARE network after a five-year pause.

Effective December 15, 2021 Walmart and Sam's Club will no longer be a part of the TRICARE network. To find more information on the network go to:

<https://bit.ly/3spvTa4>

Changes to the Pharmacy Home Delivery (up to a 90-day supply):

- Generic formulary drugs will increase from \$10 to \$12
- Brand-name formulary drugs will increase from \$29 to \$34
- Non-formulary drugs will increase from \$60 to \$68

Changes to the Retail network pharmacies (up to a 30-day supply):

- Generic formulary drugs will increase from \$13 to \$14
- Brand-name formulary drugs will increase from \$33 to \$38
- Nonformulary drugs will increase from \$60 to \$68

The changes to the non-network pharmacies (up to a 30-day supply):

- Generic formulary drugs and brand-name formulary drugs will increase from (\$33 to \$38), or the co-pay will be 20% of the total cost of the drug, whichever is greater, after meeting the annual deductible.
- Nonformulary drugs will increase from (\$60 to \$68), or the co-pay will be 20% of the total cost of the drug, whichever is greater, after meeting the annual deductible.

Shipmates and Ladies,

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

Dave

(continued on next page)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

From: "USSVI POC: William C. Andrea" <NJVC@ussvi.org>

Date: December 23, 2021

Subject: USSVCF End-of-year Appeal

Submitted by: Ken Earls

Your U.S. Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation is frequently appealing to our membership for donations. There is a reason. Our purpose is to function as a charitable organization to help submarine veterans and their families. We have no source of income other than the generosity of our members. All funds received are held in trust until a legitimate need is identified and then we step in with financial support. While funds are held, we invest and have, over the past 20+ years, done well with our investing. A few former USSVI members, upon their departure on Eternal Patrol, have remembered the U.S. Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation in their wills and have left endowment funds. These funds cannot be spent, but must rather be invested and the earnings on those investments can be used to support ongoing charitable activities.

As we approach the end of 2021, I am asking you to remember your shipmates and share a little. Your personal budget determines how much you can share, but I can assure you that all donations are warmly welcomed. One-time donations are important. Recurring donations, regardless of the amount, are vital to our continuing success.

Due to the COVID pandemic, the IRS has a special tax rule allowing Americans to deduct charitable donations on their 2021 taxes, thereby lowering their tax liability. Single-filers can deduct up to \$300; married couples who file jointly can deduct up to \$600. It isn't necessary to itemize your taxes to make this claim. This is in *addition* to your Standard Deduction if that is how you file your tax return. However, time is running out. The deadline for making an eligible donation is Dec. 31.

Go to <https://bit.ly/3FFMvhP> and you can easily make your donation in support of our entire submarine community.

Thank you.

Ken Earls
Executive Director & Treasurer
Charitable Foundation
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.
kenearls.ss@gmail.com

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

From: USSVI POC: William C. Andrea <NJVC@USSVI.ORG>
Sent: Monday, December 27, 2021
Subject: National Officer Nominations; Positions and Requirements
Submitted by: John E. Markiewicz, IPNC

2022 is an election year. The following National Officer Positions (with requirements for office) are available:

National Commander: Nominees for National Commander must have completed at least two years as a voting member of the Board of Directors by the time they take office as National Commander.

National Senior Vice Commander: Nominees for Senior Vice-Commander must have completed at least two years as a Member of the Board of Directors and must certify that they have or will develop a working familiarity of the USSVI bookkeeping software (QuickBooks).

(concluded on next page)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(concluded from previous page)

National Junior Vice Commander: Nominees for Junior Vice-Commander must have completed at least two years as a Member of the Board of Directors.

National Treasurer: Must be a Regular member in good standing and Nominees for National Treasurer must have some experience in bookkeeping, certify that they have, or will develop a working knowledge of the USSVI approved bookkeeping software (QuickBooks), use the USSVI approved software as part of his/her duties as National Treasurer, and cannot change to another software package without the Board of Director's approval.

National Secretary: Must be a Regular member in good standing.

Regional Director: Must be a member in good standing of a Base within the Region. The Nominee must be currently serving or has served as a Regional Director, District Commander or Base Officer.

Note: All nominations must be sent to the Nominations Committee Chairman on or before March 1, 2022. The nomination is accompanied by a letter from the Nominee indicating his willingness to accept the nomination and willingness to serve if elected. The Nomination Letter includes details of the nominee's qualifications in less than one hundred (100) words.

The 2022 Nominations Committee Chairman is IPNC John E. Markiewicz; e-mail is markiewiczjohn4@gmail.com.

Shipmates,

Here's a letter recently received by Bill Moak from L.A.-Pasadena Base shipmate Mike Varalyai. Bill thought it might be of general interest and graciously agreed to share it here.—ed.



*Wherein
we present
occasional
letters of
interest...
—ed.*

DEAR FAMILY AND FRIENDS;

HOPE THIS LETTER FINDS YOU ALL HEALTHY AND ENJOYING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, AND MOST OF ALL HAVE ALL YOUR SHOTS.

ONCE WE WERE VACINATED WE TOOK OFF FOR WASHINGTON TO VISIT DOREEN AND FAMILY FOR THE 4TH OF JULY. IT WAS GREAT SEEING ALL THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

NOW WE ARE HOME AND LIVING IN OUR OWN LITTLE COTTAGE, AKA OHANA. WE HAVE 2 BEDROOMS, KITCHEN /LINING ROOM AND BATHROOM WITH WALKING JACUZZI TUB.

SURE IS GREAT TO BE ON OUR OWN BUT FAMILY IS STILL VERY CLOSE BY AS WE ARE ATTACHED TO THEIR HOME.

I HAVE BEEN TREATED FOR VERTIGO SINCE JANUARY AND GETTING AROUND OKAY. STILL BEING A NURSE TAKING CARE OF MIKE.

HE HAS BEEN HAVING SEVERAL BIOPSIES REMOVED BY THE DERMATOLOGY DOCS. AT ONE TIME HE HAD 7 ON HIS HEAD ALONE. I WOULD SAY THAT HE HAS HAD A TOTAL OF 50 BIOPSIES SO FAR THIS YEAR.

HE HAS HAD 3 VISITS TO THE HOSPITAL FOR HIS HEART WITH 3 DIAGNOSIS (BLOOD CLOT, BLOOD PRESURE & SPASAMS). SURE WISH THEY WOULD FIGURE OUT THE EXACT CAUSE. ALL IN ALL, HE IS DOING OKAY. MAKES HIS OWN BREAKFAST, SHAVES AND BATHES, ENJOYS THE JACUZZI.

THAT IS ENOUGH FOR NOW. HAVE TO GET THIS LETTER PRINTED SENT WITH YOUR CARDS. PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH (grammabea12@aol.com) OR HOUSE PHONE 808 -298-0455.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR. GET VACCINATED.

LOVE YOU ALL,

Bill & Mike

Woman Alters Steel Test Results

(concluded from page 1)

nance to make certain that the vessels stay seaworthy, according to the AP, which noted that the government did not reveal which submarines were impacted.

“Ms. Thomas never intended to compromise the integrity of any material and is gratified that the government’s testing does not suggest that the structural integrity of any submarine was in fact compromised,” the woman’s attorney John Carpenter noted in a statement filed in U.S. District Court on Thomas’s behalf, according to the outlet.

“This offense is unique in that it was neither motivated by greed nor any desire for personal enrichment. She regrets that she failed to follow her moral compass—admitting to false statements is hardly how she envisioned living out her retirement years,” he noted.

When approached about the fake test results Thomas told investigators, “Yeah, that looks bad,” the DOJ said, according to the AP. Thomas indicated that in some instances she altered the tests to passing results because she believed it was “stupid” that the Navy required the tests to be executed at negative-100 degrees Fahrenheit. Elaine Marie Thomas, 67, plead guilty to fraud following more than thirty years of falsifying the outcomes of strength tests conducted on steel that was utilized to make Navy submarines, according to the Associated Press.

She previously served as the director of metallurgy at a foundry that provided steel castings utilized to create submarine hulls, according to the AP.

“From 1985 through 2017, Thomas falsified the results of

strength and toughness tests for at least 240 productions of steel—about half the steel the foundry produced for the Navy, according to her plea agreement, filed Monday in U.S. District Court in Tacoma,” the AP noted. “The tests were intended to show that the steel would not fail in a collision or in certain ‘wartime scenarios,’ the Justice Department said,” according to the outlet.

While no hull failures are alleged, authorities said the Navy faced increased costs and maintenance to make certain that the vessels stay seaworthy, according to the AP, which noted that the government did not reveal which submarines were impacted.

“Ms. Thomas never intended to compromise the integrity of any material and is gratified that the government’s testing does not suggest that the structural integrity of any submarine was in fact compromised,” the woman’s attorney John Carpenter noted in a statement filed in U.S. District Court on Thomas’s behalf, according to the outlet.

“This offense is unique in that it was neither motivated by greed nor any desire for personal enrichment. She regrets that she failed to follow her moral compass—admitting to false statements is hardly how she envisioned living out her retirement years,” he noted.

When approached about the fake test results Thomas told investigators, “Yeah, that looks bad,” the DOJ said, according to the AP. Thomas indicated that in some instances she altered the tests to passing results because she believed it was “stupid” that the Navy required the tests to be executed at negative-100 degrees Fahrenheit.

New South Korean Sub

(concluded from page 6)

Earlier in September, South Korea revealed its first-ever self-built SLBM when it declared the test-launch of its Dosan *Ahn Chang-ho* submarine, which, like the new boat, has six vertical launching tubes that can fire SLBMs. North Korea is also developing its SLBM and submarine capacities, and revealed a suite of new SLBMs in recent months. The other Korea has also been developing a new submarine that experts think could be a 3,000-ton boat that can also carry missiles. But officials stressed that North Korea hasn’t yet made a successful test of its underwater ejection of these missile systems.

Last week in reaction to South Korea’s SLBM, the North Korean Chief of missile development said his counterpart’s asset was “clumsy” and still in the development stage. The North’s government in Pyongyang has also pushed for the South to cease its development and procurement of advanced weapons, claiming that these actions constitute an expression of hostile intent.

This comes roughly a week after the U.S. and Australia struck a deal for the former to supply nuclear-powered submarines to the latter, and it’s hard not to note the growing military might of China, seeking to increase its presence and influence in the Indo-Pacific region, as a primary motivation for the U.S., Australian, and now South Korean advancements. While the new Korean submarine doesn’t appear to be nuclear-powered (which explains the limited underwater time), it could see action if a conflict erupts between China and the U.S. in the region, in the coming decade.



PRIDE RUNS DEEP

Armstrong - Dress Canvas Topside

(concluded from page 10)

“Quincy, Illinois, sir.”

“Where’s Quincy?”

“Six hundred miles outside your seventy-two radius.”

The admiral smiled—anyone who ever met Stuke immediately liked him. You couldn’t help it.

“What is Quincy known for, son?”

“The finest thing the sub force ever got, sir.”

“And what would that be?”

“Me, sir.”

I stood there waiting for Grenfell to wring his neck. My running mate was a total idiot.

“Well, seaman, the next time you get to Quincy, tell ’em to send us some more.”

He moved on. “What’s your name, son?”

“Armstrong, sir.”

“Where are you from?”

“Arlington, Virginia, sir.”

“Navy feeding you okay?”

“Three weeks out it’s still bug juice and mystery meat, sir.”

Dress canvas topside in the company of fine men and seagulls crapping on fresh pressed blues. It never got any better than that.

Keep a zero bubble . . .

Dex.



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 *Connecticut* (SSN-22)

USS *Delaware* (SSN-791)

USS *Greenville* (SSN-772)

USS *Helena* (SSN-725)

USS *Hyman G. Rickover* (SSN-795)

USS *Montana* (SSN-794)

USS *North Dakota* (SSN-784)

USS *Kentucky Blue* (SSBN-737)

USS *Kentucky Gold* (SSBN-737)

USS *Maine Blue* (SSBN-741)

Questions?

Jack Messersmith

(928) 227-7753

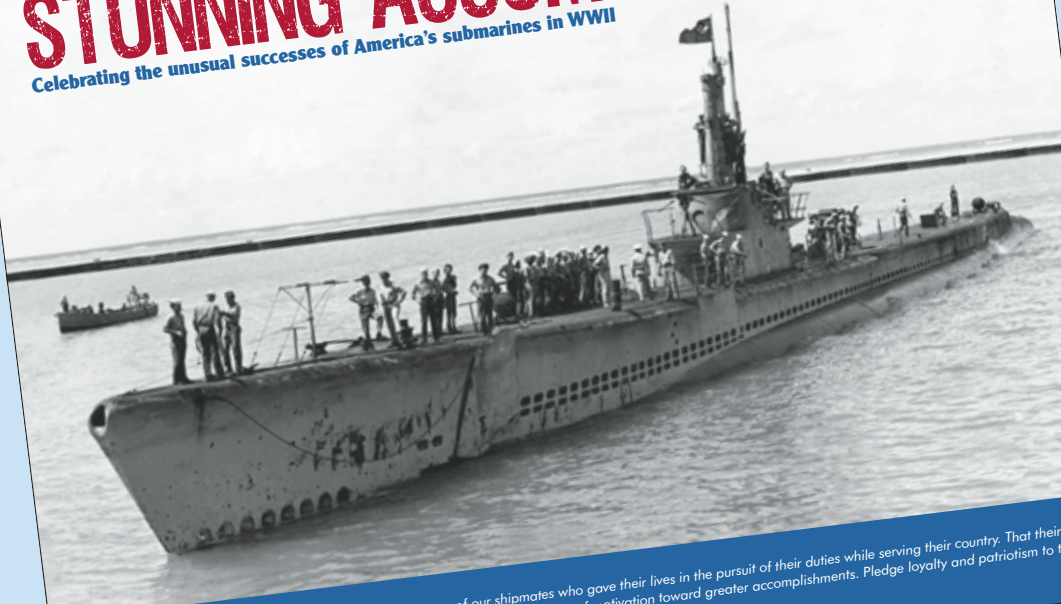
or e-mail

MesserJ109@gmail.com

2022 United States Submarine Veterans Calendar

STUNNING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Celebrating the unusual successes of America's submarines in WWII



Discover the astounding achievements of a dozen World War II American submarines.



It is our purpose to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

With this year's calendar, USSVI once again celebrates WWII boats, particularly this batch of twelve individual trailblazers—champions among champions all. We're proud to bring their accomplishments to light, from destroying enemy shipping to rescuing downed aviators, hauling gold bullion to pioneering new techniques and technologies. They've seen and done it all, and each has her own story to tell.

But it mustn't be forgotten that four of the submarines depicted—*Wahoo*, *Harder*, *Tang* and *Trout*—were among the fifty-two U.S. fleet subs which never came home; they and their crews willingly made the ultimate wartime sacrifice in support of their country against a ruthless enemy.

We invite you now to learn month-by-month the twelve success stories of these remarkable boats. Clear the bridge and standby to dive into some real underwater adventure!

The all-new 2022 USSVI Submarine Calendar
Order Now!

Individual calendars are \$10.95+2.75 shipping. Order yours today by credit card at ussvinationalstorekeeper.com or by sending your check or money order made payable to USSVI to:

Barry Commons

USSVI National Storekeeper

2063 Main St. PMB 293 • Oakley, CA 94561

Email: NSK.USSVI@yahoo.com

Phone: (925) 679-1744

Quantity discounts available.



Her late-war patrol report reads almost like a movie script. The renowned USS *Barb* (SS-220), put through her paces by the fearless Eugene Buckley and his crew of creative cutthroats, sets out to do something really unique and impressive. Launch rockets from her foredeck at Japanese targets in a prescient take on postwar missile subs! No, that would come later. Right now, they want something really unusual, super-standout. So a plot is hatched to send a raiding party ashore in rubber boats—the only Allied incursion on Japanese home island soil in WWII—with a daring mission in mind. Trains have been observed running close to shore. Why not take a scuttling charge,

USS Barb Derails Home Island Train Schedule

plan it on the track, and blow one sky high? Easy-peasy. So, under cover of darkness, this band of marauders does exactly this, jury-rigging an ingeniously simple pressure switch as a detonator. But the train shows up a little early, eliciting a mad scramble to finish up and paddle like crazy back to the waiting *Barb* before the explosion can light up the night, exposing the sub to shore batteries and who knows what else. While the submerses barely made it back in time and *Barb* lagged it out of three foot suite. Afterwards, the Karafuto train schedule was never quite the same.

July 2022

(Three submarines and 204 men lost)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June	July	August	September	October	November
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
29 30 31	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	6 7 8 9 10 11 12
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	11 12 13 14 15 16 17	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	13 14 15 16 17 18 19
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	20 21 22 23 24 25 26
26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 1	30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	27 28 29 30 1 2 3
31	31	1 2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Proceeds to benefit USSVI operations and projects.



USS Columbia (SSBN-???)

An artist rendering of the future Columbia-class ballistic missile submarine, a derivative of which could form the basis of the new SSN(X) fast-attack boat. (U.S.N.)

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



- | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 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 | | |

