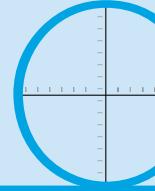


THE PERISCOPE



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

Volume 22, Number 1 • January 2026



"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."

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Editor's Corner

I hope everyone's Christmas provided wonderfully warm and fun moments. And may we all see a New Year offering real hope for better days.

My news here is that newly ongoing caretaking duties may start to force a curtailment in the number of pages in your monthly *Periscope*; I hope you'll all understand.

Meanwhile, I do remain here in the Yeoman's shack should anyone need me. —Jeff

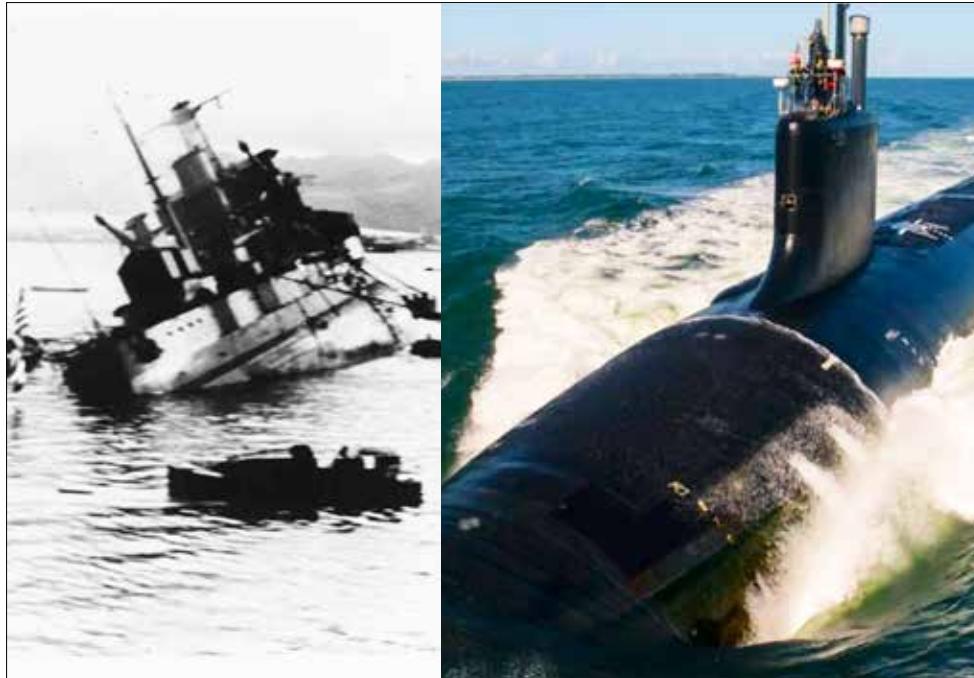
U.S. Navy Revives Pearl Harbor Battleship Name with 10,200-Ton Nuclear Submarine

The vessel carries the hull number SSN-801, a nod officials have noted aligns with the area code for Salt Lake City and much of northern Utah.

(Reproduced from the Interesting Engineering website - Published October 25, 2025)

by Kapil Kajal

<https://interestingengineering.com/military/pearl-harbor-sunken-battleship>



USS Utah capsizing off Ford Island, during attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941, after being torpedoed by Japanese aircraft (left). Virginia-class sub, like the new Utah (right). (USN/HII photos.)

The U.S. Navy will christen the fast-attack submarine USS *Utah* on Saturday, reviving a naval name last carried by a battleship lost at Pearl Harbor and marking the addition of a multimillion-dollar boat to a fleet increasingly focused on undersea superiority.

Virginia-class submarines, built by General Dynamics Electric Boat, cost about \$3.5 billion and will be formally named and blessed in a traditional bow-breaking ceremony at the builder's Groton shipyard.

(concluded on page 6)

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From the Wardroom...



Darin Detwiler,
Base Commander

Shipmates,

Welcome to 2026! Whether you earned your dolphins decades ago or more recently, whether you're still telling the same patrol stories (with a few improvements each time) or quietly listening and smiling, you are part of a community that understands what it means to go down beneath the surface and come back changed. We're glad you're here.

This month, we remember January 21, 1954, when *USS Nautilus* was launched—not just as a new submarine, but as a promise. She was different. Revolutionary. The first of her kind. Those who watched it couldn't yet know how profoundly she would change naval warfare, but they sensed it. Nearly a year later, on January 17, 1955, *Nautilus* sent a short but historic message: "UNDERWAY ON NUCLEAR POWER." In those few words, the submarine force stepped into the future. No longer bound by the need to surface or limited by endurance and speed, submariners entered an era that redefined what was possible beneath the ocean.

Six years later, in January 1961, *USS George Washington* completed the first submerged strategic deterrent patrol. Somewhere beneath the waves, she carried Polaris missiles and the weight of a world balanced uneasily between peace and catastrophe. That patrol didn't make headlines at the time, and that was precisely the point. Silent, unseen, and steady, the ballistic missile submarine took its place in the nuclear triad, helping ensure the Cold War stayed cold.

These were extraordinary achievements, built on discipline, professionalism, and the submariner's unique comfort with long stretches of quiet responsibility.

But January also reminds us: the sea is never impressed by technology alone.

On January 8, 2005, *USS San Francisco* struck an undersea seamount south of Guam at full speed. In an instant, routine became chaos. One sailor was lost, more than twenty were injured, and a proud boat was badly damaged. It remains one of the most serious peacetime submarine accidents in our Navy's recent history, underscoring a hard truth submariners have always known: even with the best equipment, training, and intentions, the margin for error underwater is unforgiving.

Every advancement, every success, carries the responsibility to learn, improve, and never grow complacent.

These January moments—launches and losses, breakthroughs and hard lessons—tell the full story of the submarine force. We've known the highest achievements of engineering and strategy, and we've borne the deepest grief that comes with service. Through it all, submariners have remained what they've always been: quiet professionals, bound by trust, competence, and a sense of duty that doesn't require applause.

As we move into 2026, may we honor both sides of that history. Celebrate what we built. Remember those we lost. Look after one another. And keep telling the stories—because they matter... especially to those who were there, and those who follow.

Fair winds, following seas, and a good year to all.

Darin

Darin Detwiler, Commander
Los Angeles-Pasadena Base

January Meeting at VFW Hall w/Hobo Stew!

Jan. Meeting

Date: Jan. 17, 2026

This month we're back at Anaheim's VFW Hall with our traditional January "Hobo Stew" potluck. Please check with Darin about volunteer stew providers. Bread/butter, salads and desserts are appreciated as always.

Location:

VFW Post 3173, Anaheim
805 East Sycamore Street
Anaheim, CA 92805

Times:

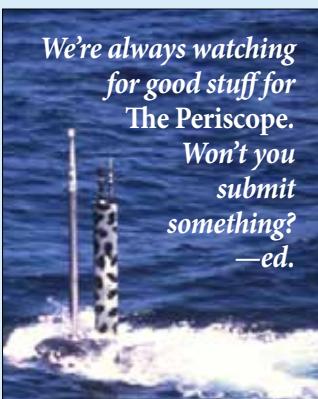
- E-Board Meets: 10:00-11:00
- General Mtg.: 11:00-Noon
- Lunch: Noon
(must vacate premises at 1:00)

Lunch: Hobo Stew Potluck. Assignments as follows. Remember to bring needed serving utensil(s).

A-H — Bread/rolls and butter

I-R — Dessert

S-Z — Salad



Jan. Birthdays

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

Ron Levenson	1/3
Bob Schive	1/3
Brian M. Senior.....	1/8
RJ Hansen.....	1/18
Sam Higa.....	1/26
Larry Smith.	1/30

Ship's Store

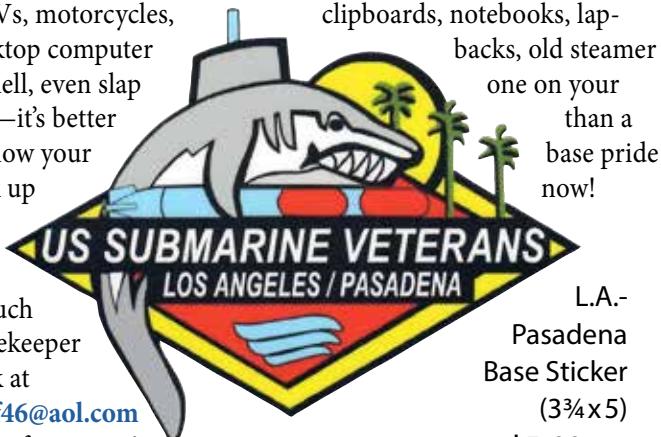
2026 Calendars Still Available!

Order your calendar through Bill Moak or the National Storekeeper.



L.A.-Pasadena Base Logo Stickers!

They're not just for the refrigerator, bubblehead! Stick 'em on cars, trucks, RVs, motorcycles, laptops, desktop computer trunks...hell, even slap forehead—it's better tattoo! Show your and stock up



Get in touch with Storekeeper Bill Moak at golfsurf46@aol.com for more information!

L.A.-
Pasadena
Base Sticker
(3 3/4 x 5)
\$5.00 ea.



USSVI Logo Patch
(9 3/4 x 6 3/4)
\$11.00 ea.



L.A.-Pasadena
Base Patch
(3 3/4 x 5)
\$5.00 ea.



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



Submarine Force
Challenge Coin
\$20.00 ea.

LOS ANGELES - PASADENA BASE

2026 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:

Wouldn't it be cool
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 Sue Bolton at 13561 Iowa Street, Westminster, CA 92683-2637. To ensure proper credit, be sure to indicate Booster Club or Flower Fund on your check. Thanks!

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)



NATO Chief Mocks Russian Navy After “Broken” Submarine is Spotted

(Reproduced from the Newsweek website - Published October 14, 2025.)

<https://www.newsweek.com/nato-chief-mocks-russias-navy-broken-submarine-spotted-10875855>

by Ellie Cook, Senior Defense Reporter



The diesel-electric submarine Novorossiysk (Project 636.3) at the piers on March 15, 2018. (Andrey Stanavov/Sputnik via AP.)

The site of a “lone and broken Russian submarine limping home” suggests the force is much weaker than it was once considered, NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte has suggested.

Moscow has denied the vessel had malfunctioned.

Why It Matters

Moscow’s undersea fleet is typically deemed a more formidable force than its surface vessels. More than three and a half years of full-scale war in Ukraine has left most of Russia’s submarines untouched, although Kyiv last year said it had sunk a Russian Black Sea Fleet submarine in Kremlin-controlled Crimea.

What To Know

A Russian Telegram channel which purports to have links

to Russian security services said in late September that Moscow’s Novorossiysk Kilo-class submarine had run into “serious technical problems,” with fuel leaking into the vessel’s hold. The onboard crew had no specialist knowledge or spare parts, according to the VChK-OGPU Telegram channel.

Russia’s Black Sea Fleet said reports of “an alleged malfunction that caused the Novorossiysk diesel-electric submarine to make an emergency surface off the coast of France are false.”

The submarine’s crew were carrying out a “routine inter-fleet transfer” in the Mediterranean Sea, the Russian navy said in a statement carried by Russian state news agency Tass on Monday. The navy said that under international law, submarines must break the surface when traveling through the English Channel.

(concluded on page 13)

New Nuke Attack Sub Named for Pearl Harbor Battleship

(concluded from page 1)

The vessel carries the hull number SSN-801, a nod officials have noted aligns with the area code for Salt Lake City and much of northern Utah.

Pearl Harbor Sunken Battleship

Navy officials say the boat will sail next year with a crew of more than 130 officers and enlisted sailors. It will carry an array of sensors and weapons, including Tomahawk cruise missiles and advanced surveillance systems.

The new USS *Utah* revives a historic name. The battleship USS *Utah* (BB-31), later converted to a target ship (AG-16), was among the U.S. vessels sunk in the December 7, 1941, Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

This weekend's christening marks the first time a U.S. Navy ship has borne the name since that loss.

According to the USS *Utah* Commissioning Committee, the submarine's principal roles will include hunting and destroying enemy submarines and surface ships, conducting intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions, supporting carrier strike groups and special operations, and conducting mine warfare.

The *Virginia* class represents the Navy's newest class of nuclear-powered attack submarines and is intended to replace older *Los Angeles*-class boats as they retire.

The class emphasizes flexibility for deep-ocean and littoral, near-shore operations. It has been built with modular features intended to rapidly insert new technologies into the vessel's service life.

Virginia-Class Submarines

Virginia-class boats are powered by a single nuclear reactor driving one shaft and are designed to be stealthy, fast, and have long-endurance.

Typical characteristics for the class include a length of about 377 feet, extended to roughly 461 feet with the *Virginia* Payload Module, and submerged displacement in the neighborhood of 10,200 tons with the additional module.

Cruising and sprint speeds are classified operationally, though public Navy materials list tactical speeds exceeding 25 knots.

The class replaces traditional optical periscopes with pho-

tonics masts that carry visible and infrared digital cameras, moving the control room layout to improve officer situational awareness.

Armament options include torpedoes and Tomahawk cruise missiles; later *Virginia* boats replaced multiple smaller vertical launch tubes with larger-diameter *Virginia* Payload Tubes or, in Block V boats, the *Virginia* Payload Module that expands payload capacity for missiles and other large undersea systems.

The *Virginia* program has been developed in blocks. Block III introduced a water-backed Large Aperture Bow array for improved passive detection and cost savings; Block V incorporates the *Virginia* Payload Module to increase the number of heavy payload tubes amidships.

The Navy has said such evolutions are meant to keep the class adaptable and effective as new mission needs emerge.

Navy officials say that the submarine force remains a cornerstone of U.S. undersea dominance as potential adversaries expand diesel-electric and air-independent propulsion fleets.

Nuclear-powered attack submarines are valued for their speed, endurance, and payload flexibility, attributes the Navy says are crucial for protecting sea lanes, supporting carrier operations, and projecting power ashore.

Sea Trials

Saturday's christening is a ceremonial milestone to full operational status. After christening, *Utah* will undergo sea trials and final testing before delivery to the Navy and eventual commissioning into active service with a trained crew.

The christening returns the name USS *Utah* to the fleet more than eight decades after the loss at Pearl Harbor.

It underscores the Navy's continuing investment in undersea capabilities amid growing strategic competition on the world's oceans.

Kapil Kajal is an award-winning journalist with a diverse portfolio spanning defense, politics, technology, crime, environment, human rights, and foreign policy. His work has been featured in publications such as Janes, National Geographic, Al Jazeera, Rest of World, Mongabay, and Nikkei. Kapil holds a dual bachelor's degree in Electrical, Electronics, and Communication Engineering plus a master's diploma in journalism.

One of the World's Most Advanced Nuclear-Powered Submarines Completes Her First U.S. Test

(Reproduced from the BGR website - Published November 4, 2025.)

<https://www.bgr.com/2010302/world-most-advanced-nuclear-powered-submarine-uss-massachusetts-ssn-798/>

by Michael Bizzaco



The SSN-798 nuclear submarine under construction at the shipyard. (HHI photo.)

Newport News Shipbuilding and General Dynamics Electric Boat (GDEB) are readying a nuclear submarine for delivery to the U.S. Navy. Christened in May 2023, the *Virginia*-class attack sub *USS Massachusetts* (SSN-798) recently underwent a series of seafaring tests, which included the vessel's first submergence, as well as its first high-speed maneuvers underwater and on the surface.

Massachusetts is one of twenty-five *Virginia*-class attack submarines, and the twelfth built by Newport News Shipbuilding, one of only two U.S. shipyards—along with GDEB—capable of constructing nuclear-powered submarines. It is one of ten nuclear-powered subs commissioned by the U.S. Navy as part of a \$17.6 billion contract the military awarded to GDEB.

Engineered to deliver next-level endurance, mobility, and stealth via nuclear propulsion technology, *Massachusetts* and her many fleet sisters are designed for modern

anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare, and are capable of launching Tomahawk missiles, collecting intel, carrying out mine warfare, plus special operations forces deployments. She is also the first vessel to receive the “Massachusetts” moniker since the *USS Massachusetts* (BB-59) battleship, which was officially decommissioned after World War II in 1947.

Massachusetts is a next-gen submarine built for modern warfare

At 377 feet long and 7,800 tons, and driven by a nuclear reactor, *Massachusetts* stands as a state-of-the-art submarine marking a major advancement in the U.S. Navy's offensive and defensive capabilities. The reactor itself is one of the main marvels of the sub, allowing for extended periods of submergence and a near-unlimited operational range. And with her single-shaft design, *Massachusetts* is able to channel fission power into a propulsion system, which helps to reduce power losses and acoustic signature.

(concluded on page 8)

Advanced U.S. Nuke Sub Completes Test

(concluded from page 7)

The more energy-efficient and quieter a submarine is, the more formidable it becomes, and *Massachusetts* is no slouch, reaching underwater speeds of up to 25 knots (around 30 miles per hour). As part of the Block V fleet, the vessel also features the Virginia Payload Module: an extended midsection that gives the boat another four payload tubes, giving the sub the ability to launch up to forty Tomahawks at a time. *Massachusetts'* modular design is another triumph for the U.S. Navy. Modernization can be carried out within the same hull, saving time and cost while extending service life. This bodes well for AI-assisted advancements in submarine technology, from sonar operations to mission planning and critical health monitoring systems.

In an interview with Military.com, Rear Adm. Mark Heinrich underscored the importance of the Block V *Virginia*-class submarines in the Pacific theater. "The key for the *Virginia*-class Block V is that it will replace the SSGNs," he said, referring to the current nuclear-powered guided missile submarines which have been in service since 2007. "When they do, they'll be very relevant players in the Pacific—a submariner's playground, deep, maneuverable, and full of opportunity for training in real-world environments."

Next-gen power replaces Cold War workhorses

When the first *Virginia*-class nuclear subs were delivered to the U.S. Navy back in 2004, they began replacing the *Los Angeles*-class subs, a staple of the U.S. Navy for well over four decades. While a bit faster than the *Virginia* vessels, the *Los Angeles*-class boats are much louder, require refueling, and can only hold twelve Tomahawks at a time, compared to the forty-missile capacity of the Block V boats.

Many *Los Angeles*-class subs are already decommissioned, and the U.S. Navy's contract with GDEB was modified this past April for the order of two more Block V subs: USS *Baltimore* (SSN-812) and USS *Atlanta* (SSN-813). As of 2025, the U.S. Navy has added twenty-four *Virginia*-class subs to the fleet, and it's only a matter of time before these new boats completely replace their Cold War predecessors.

There's no denying the significant foothold the U.S. Navy has when it comes to underwater warfare, and with each new Block V (and upcoming Block VI and VII) sub received by the military, the stronger and more reactive America's undersea presence becomes.



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USS <i>Delaware</i> (SSN-791)	USS <i>Kentucky Blue</i> (SSBN-737)
USS <i>Greeneville</i> (SSN-772)	USS <i>Kentucky Gold</i> (SSBN-737)
USS <i>Helena</i> (SSN-725)	USS <i>Maine Blue</i> (SSBN-741)
USS <i>Hyman G. Rickover</i> (SSN-795)	

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

Pin the Tail on the Donkey

by Bob "Dex" Armstrong

I don't know if this was typical of other boats or exclusive to *Requin* and/or SUBRON Six, but there was no subject out of bounds when we played pin the tail on the donkey. Nothing was sacred on the old 481. Guys wouldn't hesitate to tell you your mother was ugly, her cooking was lousy, or your sister belonged in a zoo. Also that your hometown was a dump, your religion was a pagan cult operated by the devil, your dear granny was hooking at the Trailways bus station, or that before *you* ever got Dolphins, the Old Man would be pinning them on Hampton Blvd. shoeshine boys.

Life would admittedly get a little boring on board. If you could piss somebody off, that was needed entertainment. Sounds weird, but being on submarines *was* weird. Just take Boy Throtleman, Olgoat and Launcher Larry as examples and you'll quickly understand. Getting under the skin of a shipmate was known as administering "the red ass"—the old pink pooper routine—or, lighting up your stern tubes. Read Rontini's BBS and it'll be evident boat sailors can bounce stuff off each other which would be lethal to the uninitiated.

Enginemen were the worst. They were a mile and a half ahead of whatever rate was in second place. Enginemen... Every damn one of them was beyond redemption and salvation when it came to the "I don't believe the sonuvabitch actually said that" personal insult. When enginemen die, they all get express buses to hell.

On our boat, John T. could drop the anvil on you in a heartbeat. One minute you'd be sitting in the crew's mess enjoying a cup of whatever the cooks were passing off as coffee, and the next moment you were actually considering the options for ending John T.'s earthly existence.

The rules of common decency stopped at the pressure hull. From there on it was everybody for themselves, protection-wise. Sharks ate the timid. Strictly law of the jungle in force. Walk softly and carry a sharp harpoon.

Officers, God bless 'em, never understood it. We had a j.g. who had a cardiac arrest once when a heavy hit-

ting session broke out.

I remember another effort which began in the crew's mess and went on for damned near a week. Looking back, it may have ranked as the most fun we ever had playing the red ass game.

We had one lad aboard who held two engineering degrees and had actually considered becoming a priest; he was without a doubt the most intellectual E-3 in the navy. How a guy makes the quantum leap from priest to boat sailor is beyond me, but he'd done it. He arrived with a thin skin and left with an armadillo hide.

One morning, greasy John.T. ventures forward. He pulls a cup from the rack, draws a cup of coffee, looks over at A.L. and asks the dumbest question ever asked: "Hey professor, how's come you Catholics pray to dolls?"

A.L. lit up. Within a week, the kid had laid the entire doctrine of the Catholic faith on every available ear. We could've become commissioned cardinals. We seriously considered buying some of those elephant tranquilizer darts to shoot him and shut him up. After he figured he had converted the heathen horde, he piped down and conversation returned to tits, cars, the New York Giants, and the Chicago Bears.

Then John T. showed up again and said: "Your Eminence, word has it the squadron is looking for a boat to go north and punch holes in the ocean. Would you talk to your Mother Mary doll and tell her to tell God that the *Cutlass* ain't been anywhere lately?"

Ten minutes later, Dutch told John T. if he mentioned dolls one more time he would wake up to find his tongue vice-gripped to his gahdam eyelids.

Keep a zero bubble...

Dex.



New Members

We proudly welcome aboard:

Frank M. Bereznay

SK2(SS) E-5 Petty Officer (2nd)
Contact: daughter Catherine
528 S. Cardiff Street
Anaheim, CA 92806-4334
cell: 714-337-3936
email: frank.bereznay@gmail.com
Qualified in 1969 on USS *Spinax* (AGSS-489); served 1967-1971.
Also on *Greenfish* and *Gudgeon*.

Brian M. Senior, Life Member

(EM1-SS E6—Petty Officer 1st Class)
Son of the Seniors; Spouse: Tamar
2015 Windmill Lane
Alexandria, VA 22307-1951
cell: 202-594-2050
email: briansenior@hotmail.com
Served '82-'94; qual'd on *Silversides* (SSN-679) in '86; Nuc Operator;
in Navy Reserves 1990-1994.

Kathleen A. Carder

Associate; Significant Other of
Bill Moak; sponsor: Ray Teare
2865 Helm Street
Simi Valley, CA 93065-5257
cell: 662-335-5602
e: KathleenCarder@Outlook.com

David "Dave" Geske

(ICC-SS) E-7 Chief Petty Officer)
Spouse: Evelyn
4567 Pennyroyal Drive
Corona, CA 92878-3283
cell: 801-889-0178
email: dave.geske@outlook.com
Served '75-'86; qualified on *Thomas Jefferson* (SSBN-618) in '77. Also
aboard *Ohio* (SSBN-726) '79-'82.

Charles B. "Charlie" McCarthy, Jr.
(LCDR - 04 - LCDR) Spouse: Anita
19068 Shadow Ridge Lane
Yorba Linda, CA 92886-2763
cell: 714-720-3837

email: cbmatylca@aol.com
Qualified in 1966 on *Geo. Bancroft* (SSBN-643); served 1959-1976.

Laurie Ann Mabry

Associate; niece of Shipwreck
Kelly; sponsor: Ron Jones
Spouse: Harry
5923 Mildred Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4631
cell: 714-309-2367
laurieannmabry7082@gmail.com



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

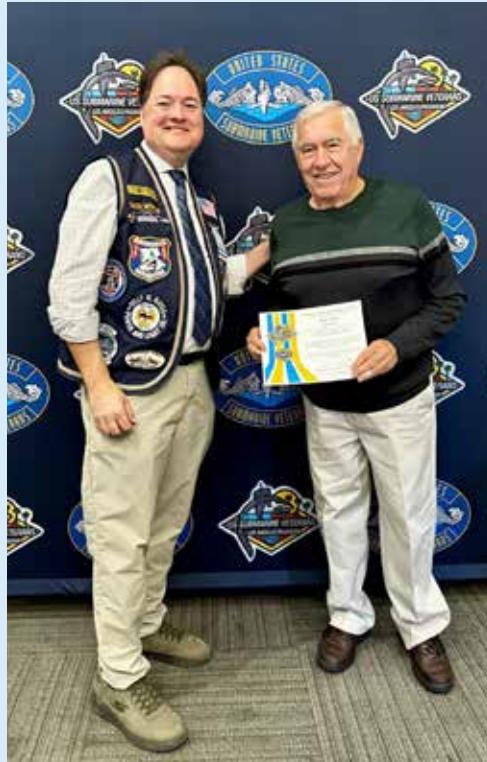
When News Breaks, We Pick Up the Pieces...



STANDING (l-r)] Darin Detwiler, Mike Swanson, Ed Barwick, Pat Ziliacus, George Walrath, Dave Semrau, Willie Williamson, Ray Teare, Dave Vanderveen, Ron Jones, Bill Moak.

SEATED (l-r)] Stan Westrick, Chuck Senior, Ken Dorn, Sam Higa, and Jack Mahan.

L.A.-Pasadena Base Holds Annual Christmas Luncheon



Darin Detwiler presents a certificate to Director Ken Dorn, who donated the funds to pay for our photo banner.



Base Cmdr. Darin Detwiler presents Past Base Cmdr. Dave Vanderveen with a plaque in recognition of his service to the base.



More Chapter News...

L.A.-Pasadena Base Christmas Soirée the Usual Yuletide Success

More pics below from our annual holiday shindig.

Dave Semrau shared photos from his years aboard USS John Marshall (SSBN-611) and USS Angler (SS-240).



L.A.-Pasadena Base diners show their Christmas Spirit.

Pistachios and water bottles donated by Wendy Maduff at Wonderful Foods. Centerpieces and floral arrangements by Darin Detwiler's wife, Gennette Zimmer.



Ray Teare and Sue Bolton were winners of the BINGO games, created by Cindy Teare.

Darin's Toast at the Event:

To the crews we served with, the families who waited for us, and the shipmates who now rest on eternal patrol.

To the laughter that echoed through steel hulls, and the love that waited for us on the pier.

To the courage that kept us steady in the deep, and the compassion that keeps us connected here, above the waves.

May this season remind us that we are never alone—whether beneath the sea or gathered in this room.

And may the values that guided us below—honor, integrity, and quiet courage—continue to guide us in life.

To the Silent Service...To our families.

And to the spirit of the holidays—the light that endures, even in the darkest depths. Cheers!



John P. Holland

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

(75-year members noted with *)

Arthur B. Schwartz..... 2025
Scott Hultner..... 2024
Stanley O. Westrick 2024
Ronald R. Jones..... 2023
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
Frank M. Bereznay 2019
David H. Vanderveen..... 2019
Dennis Bott 2018
Robert "Mike" Cailor 2018
Robert Miller..... 2018
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
Charles B. McCarthy, Jr.... 2016

(concluded next page)



Los Angeles-Pasadena Base 2026 Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 17 Monthly Meeting - "Hobo Stew Day"

February 21 Monthly Meeting

March 21 Monthly Meeting - "Spring Fling"

April 18 Monthly Meeting
Call for Memorial Day Prep Volunteers

May 16 Field Day at the Memorial Site - 0900
Monthly Meeting
Nominating Committee Appointed
Call for participants in the
Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade

May 23 Field Day at the Memorial Site - 0900

May 25 Memorial Day Service - 1100
Submarine Memorial, West

June 20 Monthly Meeting - Annual "Steakfest"
Call for nominations for 2023 Base Officers

July 4 117th Annual...
Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade

July 18 LeRoy Stone Memorial Picnic
(Location TBD)

August 15 Monthly Meeting - "Hawaii" Theme
2023 Base Officer Candidates Announced

September 19 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
Election of Officers

October 17 Monthly Meeting
Annual Officer Installation Luncheon

November 21 Monthly Meeting - Thanksgiving Theme

December 19 Annual Christmas Luncheon
at the Los Alamitos Golf Course

(Holland Club Roster, concluded)

Gary Wheaton.....	2016
Lawrence R. Butler	2015
Samuel T. Higa	2015
Harry P. Ross.....	2015
Charles H. Senior	2015
Larry E. Smith.....	2015
Sam Aboulafia.....	2014
David Palagy.....	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
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. Diumenti	2009
David Whittlesey	2009
Dennis A. Yure.....	2009
Armen Bagdasarian.....	2008
Paul A. Riggs	2008
Rex L. Shields	2008
Francis R. Traser	2006
Ronald K. Thompson.....	2004
James Rogers	2003
*William F. Long.....	1999
*Kenneth E. Chunn.....	1998
*Patrick Zilliacus.	1994
*William J. Dillon	1993

NATO Chief Mocks “Broken” Russian Sub

(concluded from page 5)

“There is a lone and broken Russian submarine limping home from patrol,” Rutte said during an address in the Slovenian capital, Ljubljana, on Monday.

“What a change from the 1984 Tom Clancy novel *The Hunt for Red October*,” Rutte continued. “Today, it seems more like the hunt for the nearest mechanic.”

The 1984 book and 1990 film adaptation of *The Hunt For Red October* tells the fictional story of a Soviet submarine captain with plans to defect to the U.S. during the Cold War.

The U.K.’s Royal Navy said one of its warships and a helicopter had joined a NATO effort to track the submarine’s “every move” between October 7 and 9, close to the French island of Ushant, at the southwestern edge of the English Channel. The submarine moved through the English Channel into the North Sea, the British military said.

The submarine was accompanied by a tug boat, the Royal Navy said. The Dutch defense ministry said its navy had taken over from the British ship once the Russian submarine passed into Dutch waters.

NATO’s Maritime Command (MARCOM) said on October 9 a French Navy frigate was tracking the *Novorossiysk*, posting two images of the surfaced submarine.

The *Novorossiysk* was commissioned in 2014, and is capable of carrying Russia’s advanced sea-launched Kalibr cruise missiles. These missiles have been routinely used against Ukraine.

British ministers have said there has been an uptick in Russia’s submarine activity through the English Channel. Attention has long homed in on Russian submarine activity in the so-called GIUK Gap, or the waters between Greenland, Iceland and the U.K. It naturally restricts Arctic access to and from the north Atlantic, and passing through the GIUK Gap is an important part of Russia’s submarine strategies.

Rutte said Russia’s military was “stretched” and there was “hardly any Russian naval presence in the Mediterranean left.”

What People Are Saying

British Armed Forces Minister Al Carne said in a statement released on Tuesday: “Russian vessels have been passing through the English Channel more frequently and our Royal Navy is on the job 24/7, keeping a close eye on their movements to make sure our waters and undersea cables stay safe.” NATO countries have been increasingly concerned about the vulnerability of the alliance’s critical undersea infrastructure, like pipelines and cables, in areas like the North Sea and the Baltic Sea.

Commander David Armstrong, the commanding officer of the Royal Navy’s HMS *Iron Duke* which shadowed the submarine, said: “A surfaced Russian submarine will always focus the mind.”

NATO chief Mark Rutte said during his speech in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on Monday: “We should not underestimate the threat from Russia, but we should not overestimate Russia’s capabilities either.”

Binnacle List

• **Sam Aboulafia:** His latest PET scan shows him in remission again. He hopes to work on other health problems now while still in the hospital. He sends his best to all members of Los Angeles-Pasadena Base and thanks us all for our good wishes. You can reach him at:

Sam Aboulafia:
cell: 702-274-7256
email: Aboulafiasam@gmail.com



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!

Russian Submarine and Corvette Sustain Major Damage. Here's What We Know...

(Reproduced from the United24 Media website - Published September 27, 2025.)

<https://united24media.com/latest-news/russian-submarine-and-corvette-sustain-major-damage-heres-what-we-know-12008>

by Ivan Khomemko, News Writer



Crew boards Russian submarine Novorossiysk during commissioning ceremony in St. Petersburg, August 2014. (Source: Getty Images.)

Two Russian naval vessels have reportedly sustained major technical failures in separate incidents in the Mediterranean and the Azov region.

According to Russian investigative outlet VChK-OGPU on September 27, the Project 636.3 submarine *Novorossiysk* experienced a critical malfunction in its fuel system while operating in the Mediterranean Sea.

The leak caused fuel to enter the bilge compartment. Sources told the outlet that the crew lacks both the necessary spare parts and trained specialists to carry out repairs.

The report suggested that one of the few options available would be to discharge the remaining fuel into the sea, highlighting the submarine's degraded operational state.

VChK-OGPU also reported that the Project 21631 Buyan-M missile corvette *Vyshny Volochyok* was severely damaged in August 2025 after colliding with a civilian tanker in the Temryuk Bay of the Azov Sea.

The accident occurred on August 7 during what was described in official documents as "combat tasks." Photographs published by the outlet show visible structural damage to the vessel's hull.

2026 United States Submarine Veterans Calendar

SILENT HUNTERS

Los Angeles-class submarines continue to play a critical role in national security. Their ability to operate undetected has ensured strategic deterrence and supported global military operations for decades.



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.

Just \$13.75
plus shipping

The L.A. Boats

Los Angeles-class submarines continue to play a critical role in national security. Their ability to operate undetected has ensured strategic deterrence and supported global military operations for decades. Show your support for the Silent Service and these crucial hardworking boats with this latest beautiful wall calendar from USSVI.

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Proceeds to benefit USSVI operations and projects.



USS PROVIDENCE (SSN 719)
USS *Providence* was the first *Los Angeles*-class submarine equipped with the Tomahawk missile system. This capability allowed her to be the first submarine to successfully launch a Tomahawk cruise missile from the VLS using its CCS MKI combat system and software Program 4.1. In 2008, *Providence* made a historic transit under the Arctic ice cap, surfacing at the North Pole to commemorate the 50th anniversary of USS *Nauticus*'s groundbreaking journey. During Operation Iraqi Freedom in

2003, she earned the nickname "Big Dog of the Red Sea" for launching the most Tomahawk missiles during the conflict. The submarine also played a key role in launching Tomahawk missiles against Libyan air defenses during Operation Odyssey Dawn in 2011. In popular culture, *Providence* is featured in the 1986 Tom Clancy novel *Red Storm Rising*. Alongside her sister submarines, USS *Boston* (SSN 703) and USS *Chicago* (SSN 722), After 37 years of dedicated service, *Providence* was decommissioned on August 15, 2022.

August 2026

(Five submarines and 251 men lost)

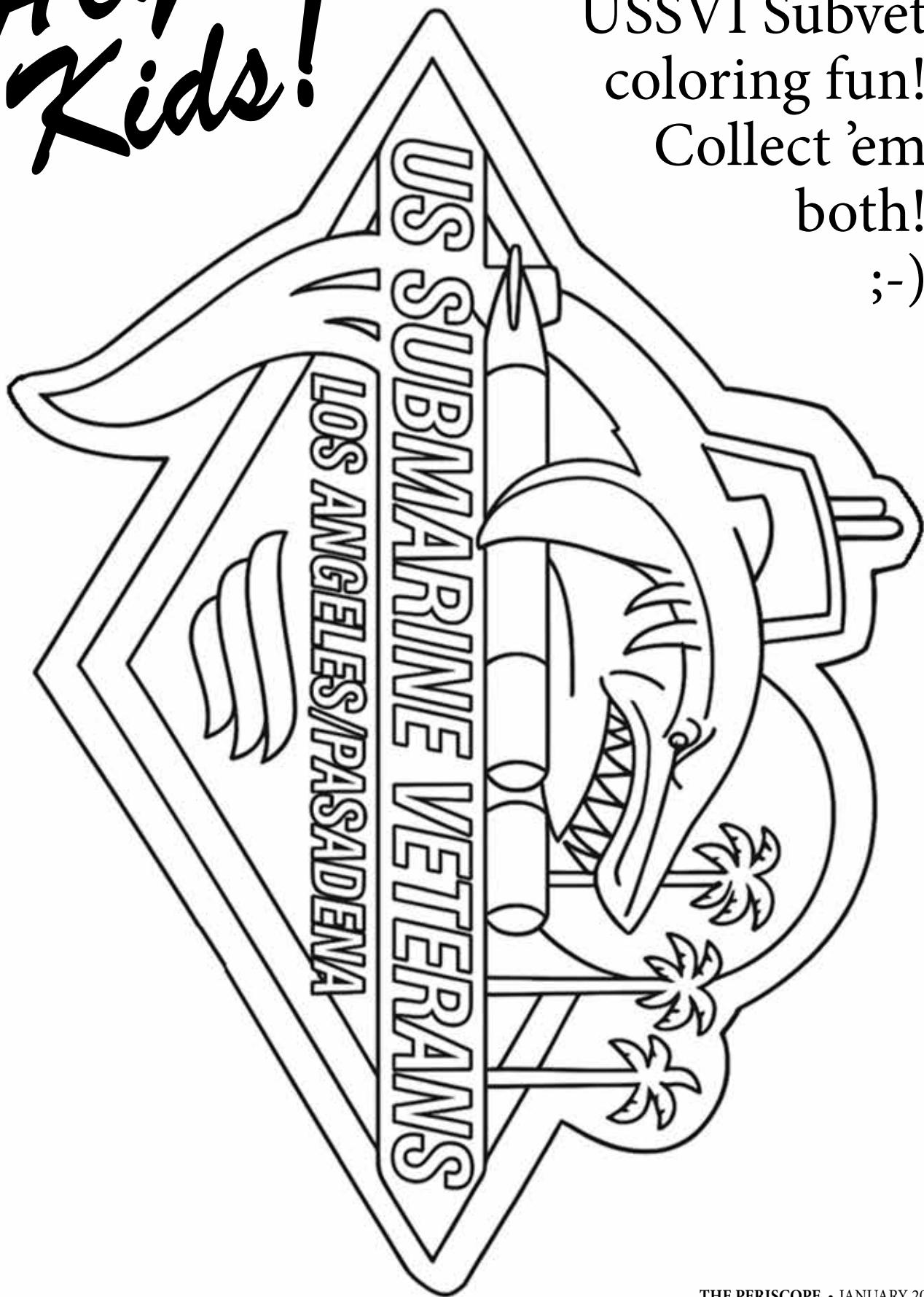


"They were no supernmen, nor were they endowed with any supernatural qualities of heroism. They were merely top-notch American sailors, well-trained, well-treated, well-armed and provided with superb ships."

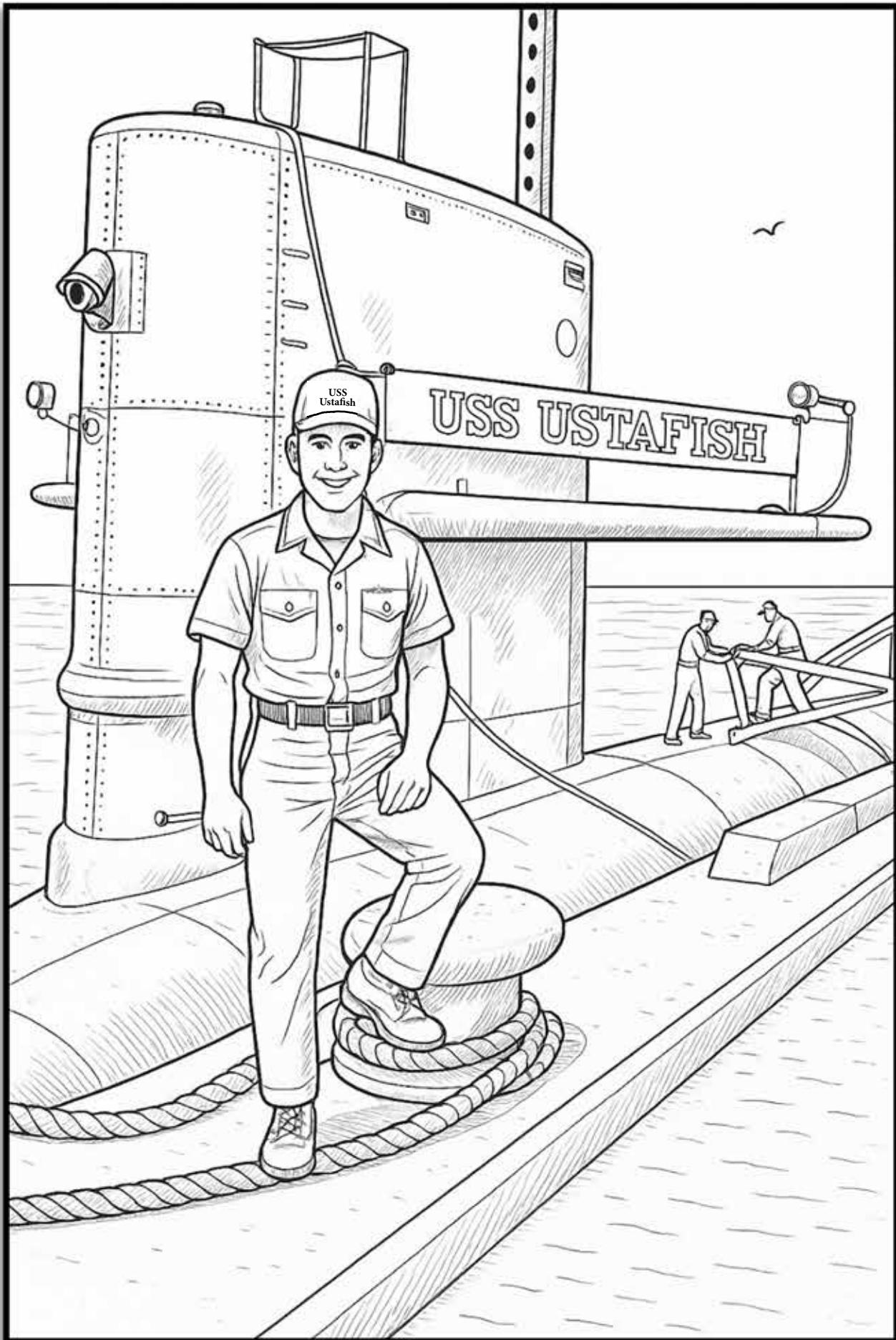
VICE ADMIRAL CHARLES L. LEONARDSON, COMUSB(PAC)

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*HARBOUR (SS-257) 1944						
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Kids!



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coloring fun!
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both!
;-)



Your editor's r/c 1/96-scale USS
Blueback (SS-581) is headed
Emergency Deep!



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

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

