

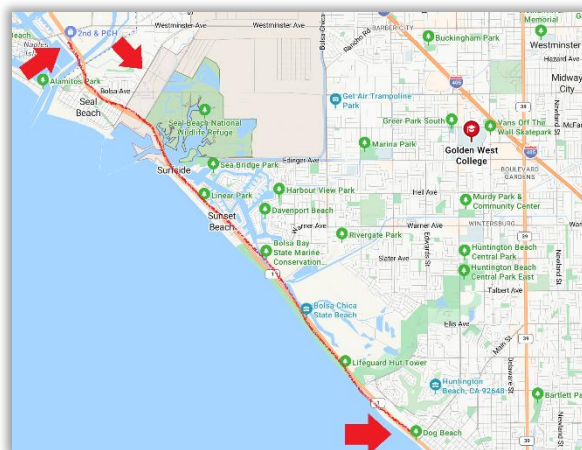
## A Highway That Connects Us to Our Past

Many of you know the US SUBMARINE VETERANS WWII NATIONAL MEMORIAL WEST site in Seal Beach not just as a place, but as a responsibility. You have volunteered there. You have read the names. You have helped ensure that those on Eternal Patrol are never forgotten. What may be less familiar, especially for those who do not live in the area, is that a long section of PCH running near our memorial carries that same mission forward.

In 2000, the California State Legislature passed ACR 98, authored by Assemblyman Scott Baugh, and signed into law on August 14 of that year, formally designated a portion of PCH as: **“THE U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS OF WWII MEMORIAL HIGHWAY.”** This stretch runs north from Goldenwest Street in Huntington Beach up to the L.A. County Line (near PCH & 2<sup>nd</sup>), cutting directly through Seal Beach (see map below).

This designation honors more than 3,500 submariners lost in World War II as well as the 52 U.S. submarines that never returned. For those outside our community, it may look like just another highway. For us, it represents something far more personal. We understand what it means when a submarine is lost. No grave site. No horizon marker. Just coordinates, memory, and duty.

This highway gives the public something tangible. A visible reminder placed into the flow of everyday life. For those of us who wear dolphins, this highway is more than recognition. It is an extension of our mission.



Map of US SUBMARINE VETERANS OF WWII MEMORIAL HWY with arrows pointing to the end points as well as pointing to the US SUBMARINE VETERANS WWII NATIONAL MEMORIAL WEST nearby in Seal Beach, CA.



Photo by Darin's wife, Gennette, of the sign seen traveling south along PCH as you cross from Los Angeles County to Orange County and enter Seal Beach. Another sign can be seen on PCH just north of Goldenwest Street in Huntington Beach.

Whether you live nearby or across the country, your role as a caretaker does not change. You help carry forward the names, the history, and the meaning behind both the memorial and the highway that bears our community's name. Because in the end, it is not about the road. It is about making sure that those who remain beneath the sea are never out of sight, and never out of mind.



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.”*

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This edition is the first one to be edited and published by Base Commander Darin Detwiler. **Jeff Porteous** has been our base's Newsletter Editor for many years – over 80 issues – and has produced such a high-quality newsletter. Read more about Jeff on [page 19](#) of this issue.

- Darin



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WEBSITE**

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

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**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

**Darin Detwiler**

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## From the Wardroom -

Darin Detwiler,  
Base Commander

Shipmates and members-

June has always been a month that asks something of us.

It asks us to remember. To reflect. To look back at the history, the sacrifice, and the quiet courage that define the Submarine Service. You see that throughout this issue, in the stories of those on Eternal Patrol, in the milestones we honor, and in the legacy carried forward by every man who earned his Dolphins.

But June also marks something else for our base...it marks movement.

As we enter June and July, we find ourselves in two of the most active months of the year. Health expos (June 13). Pop-up at the pier (June 27). Community events. The Fourth of July parade. These are not just items on a calendar. They are moments where our base steps out from behind the scenes and into the community we serve.

And that matters - because our presence in the community is part of our mission. When we show up in public, we are doing more than attending an event. We are telling a story. We are reminding people that service does not end when the uniform comes off. We are creating connections with future members, strengthening relationships with partners, and building the kind of visibility that supports both our growth and our ability to give back. There is pride in that.

Pride in seeing our shipmates standing together at a booth, in a parade, or at a local event. Pride in knowing that the same sense of responsibility that once defined us at sea continues to guide us here at home. And pride in knowing that what we do today still carries meaning for others. This issue of the newsletter is filled with numerous photos of our active base. Please enjoy and consider taking and adding more photos to future newsletters.

This kind of engagement does more than raise awareness. It strengthens our base. It supports our membership. And yes, it even helps ensure we have the resources to continue our mission well into the future. And that is something worth celebrating.

So as we move through these next few weeks, I encourage you to take pride in what this base represents. Take pride in the opportunities to show up. To engage. To be seen. Not for recognition, but for impact. Because in many ways, we are still standing watch. Just in a different place. For a different audience. But with the same commitment.

Pride runs deep.



*Darin Detwiler*

*Base Commander, USSVI Los Angeles-Pasadena Base*



## Minutes of May 16, 2026, eBoard Meeting

The Base **Executive Board** meeting was called to order by Bill Moak meeting at 1005.

The following members in attendance:

**Bill Moak**, COB / **Sue Bolton**, Treasurer / **Stan Westrick**, Secretary / Dennis Bott, Memorial Director / **Ken Dorn**, Director / **Dave Vanderveen**, Past Commander (by phone) / **Mike Swanson**, Director / **Chuck Senior**, Director / **Marilyn Senior**, Membership Director. [Base Commander Darin Detwiler was out of state on business] A quorum was met.

**MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** (April) With no corrections or additions noted, Dennis Bott moved to approve the minutes from the April Meeting, Bill Moak seconded. Motion approved and the minutes were accepted.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Sue Bolton presented the Treasurer reads report as of April 2026:

Checking Account-	\$27,248.93
Cash on hand-	\$50.00
Uncleared checks-	None
Total-	\$27,298.93
<b>Expenses</b>	
Plastic Signage for Memorial Day /	
Decorations for August base Meeting-	\$399.00
Postage-	\$27.96
All bills have been paid.	
<b>Income/Donations</b>	
Ken Dorn-	\$400.00
Raffle/Dennis Bott-	\$55.00
Products-	\$112.00
Base Patches-	\$60.00
Patches, Shirts, Stickers-	\$22.00

With no corrections or additions noted, Stan Westrick moved to approve the Treasurer’s report, Dennis Bott seconded. Motion approved and the Treasurer’s Report was accepted.

### MEMORIAL REPORT:

- Darin Detwiler is scheduled to replace the flowers in June.
- There will be a field day at the Memorial on May 23 1000-1200
- Stan will install a hasp and combination lock on new podium door.
- **Memorial Day:** Dennis said there would be a shuttle bus from the Boeing parking lot to the Memorial ceremony at the park. Bill and Dennis will check on reserved setting at the Memorial ceremony. Bill suggested putting reserved cards on some of the seats.

### OLD BUSINESS:

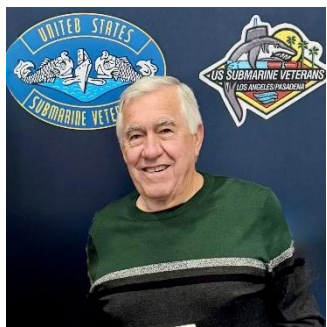
First Chamber of Commerce Pop-up scheduled for June 13, from 1000 – 1400.

Darin has a list of volunteers to man the booth. Bill will have tee shirts for sale at \$20.00. (See page 14)

Second Pop-up is scheduled for June 27, from 1100 - 1500. We are looking for volunteers to man the booth. (See page 14)

Bill Moak reminded everyone about Ron Jones telling the Base about placing flags at the LA Memorial Center on May 23 at 0700.

### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:



**Ken Dorn** is a retired firefighter with the **LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT**, where he served with distinction for 33 years. He also served in the U.S. NAVY from 1961 to 1967 as an ETN2(SS) aboard the [USS Redfin \(SS-272\)](#).

A docent at the [L.A. COUNTY FIRE MUSEUM](#) in Bellflower, Ken has secured the museum as a meeting location and continues to support our USSVI base through leadership and generous contributions.

*If you would like to nominate a base member to be highlighted in a future newsletter, please let us know –*

[dsetwiler680@gmail.com](mailto:dsetwiler680@gmail.com)



### JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

We hereby extend the happiest of wishes to all our LA/P Base birthday celebrants:

Milt Boudov .....6/3  
**Ken Dorn** .....6/26  
 Angus McColl .....6/29



The UNITED STATES  
SUBMARINE VETERANS'  
CHARITABLE  
FOUNDATION

is the official charitable arm of USSVI. It is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, which means donations made to the foundation may be tax-deductible and are used exclusively for charitable, educational, memorial, scholarship, and veteran-support purposes. The Foundation supports submarine veterans, their families, memorial preservation, education, scholarships, museums, and outreach programs that honor the legacy and continuing service of the U.S. Submarine Force.

The USSVCF funds include:

- Brotherhood Fund
- General Fund
- Memorial Fund
- Museum Boat Fund
- Scholarship Fund
- Submarine Library Fund
- Building Fund
- Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Fund
- Legacy Fund

These dedicated funds allow donors to support specific aspects of the submarine veteran community and its mission.

Darin Detwiler is still looking into options on buying and distributing new Challenge coins. One option is to use the **USSVI Charitable Foundation (CF)** to purchase the coins that way there is the possibility that the purchase would be a tax write off. The Coin discussion was not finalized and has been tabled until the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**June 20 meeting at LA County Fire Museum in Bellflower.** Ken Dorn needs a firm head count so he can let the Museum know how many people are planning on coming. If it is over 50 they will close down the museum to the public, he may get some Fire Department officials to attend. Ken said if there are enough people attending they (the museum) may get a food truck. No one talked about who would pay for this. Chuck Senior said he would contact Darin or Dave to see if any Public officials will attend so Ken can have a more accurate count. (See page 14)

**Huntington Beach 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade** - Stan Westrick reported the rental for the trailer would cost \$83.40. The trailer will hold 8 chairs. Stan and Darin will supply the chairs. Stan will supply bunting (to be installed at the parade site). (See page 15)

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Chuck Senior had a question regarding the transfer of \$2500.00 to the **USSVI Charitable Foundation**. He wanted to make sure there had been a motion for the transfer. I let him know who had moved and seconded the motion. Sue Bolton said she was looking into how to make the transfer.

There was also a question of how much money to transfer to another Charitable Foundation's savings account. There was no clear answer.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Bill Moak moved and Chuck Senior seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 1105 Hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

*Stan Westrick*

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI

---

## Minutes of May 16, 2026, General Meeting

The Base **General** meeting was called to order by Bill Moak at 1105

*“All Rise” - Let us at this time, with a moment of silent prayer, remember our Shipmates who made the supreme sacrifice, and that we may gather here in Peace. We dedicate this meeting to our Shipmates on Eternal Patrol, to perpetuate their memories in our lives and to honor our Shipmates on active duty in the service of the first line of defense of our Nation.*

Bill Moak led the flag salute.

**READING OF BOATS LOST THIS MONTH IN HISTORY (May)**

Submarine	Date Lost	Hands Lost
<u>LAGARTO (SS-371)</u>	4 May 1945	86
<u>SCORPION (SSN-589)</u>	22 May 1968	99
<u>SQUALUS (SS-192) (later SAILFISH)</u>	23 May 1939	26
<u>STICKLEBACK (SS-415)</u>	29 May 1958	0

**MOMENT OF SILENCE....**

## BINNACLE LIST:

Marilyn Shares the following:

### Ed Barwick

reports he cracked three ribs and has several bruises on his body. He recently changed some treatment from UCLA to the VA hospital and it's working out very well. The paramedics were having a difficult time to find a place to take him. His wife suggested the VA here in Long Beach and turned out to be a very good choice. As of recent, Ed is still in the hospital. *You can send Ed a Text or give him a call at (562) 268-6066.*

### Ed Arnold

is still in his assisted living facility in Yorba Linda. He recently had surgery and splints were placed in his heart. *You can send Ed a Text or give him a call at (714) 797-9286.*

### Michael "Willie" Williamson

has had his second round of radiation for cancer. Doctors started him on Amino Chemo (pill form). Has been doing that for over 3 months now and getting ready for Hyperbaric Oxygen therapy. He says **"getting old is not for sissies."** On a good note, he was inducted into the Holland Club last month. He is staying close to home as he is still taking care of his Mom. *Text "Willie" or give him a call at (909) 754-0326.*

## MEMBERS PRESENT:

*Stan Westrick, Sue Bolton, Mike Swanson, Larry Duncan, Chuck Senior, Marilyn Senior, Bruce Danielson, Raymon Aguilar, Bill Moak, Scott Schuman, Kathleen Carder*

## MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Bill Moak told the members of the General Meeting that the E-Board had read the minutes from the last meeting and the E Board had approved the minutes.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer reads report that was approved at the Executive Board meeting. (See full report in eBoard minutes above.)

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Membership Director reads report

Total Members	Holland Club Members	USSVI Life Members	Base Life Members
99	66	67	64

## MEMORIAL REPORT:

Darin Detwiler is scheduled to replace the flowers in June.

We will hold a field day at the Memorial on May 23 1000-1200.

Stan will install a hasp and combination lock on new podium door.

Memorial Day Ceremony (5/25 11:30 am at Eisenhower Park in Seal Beach). Dennis said there will be a shuttle bus from the Boing parking lot to the Memorial ceremony at the park. Bill and Dennis will check on reserved setting.

## OLD BUSINESS:

First Chamber of Commerce Pop-up scheduled for June 13, from 1000 – 1400.

Darin has a list of volunteers to man the booth. Bill will have tee shirts for sale at \$20.00.

Second Pop-up is scheduled for June 27, from 1100 - 1500. We are looking for volunteers to man the booth.

Bill Moak reminded everyone about Ron Jones telling the Base about placing flags at the LA Memorial Center on May 23 at 0700.

Ron moved to see how much a placard would cost for the 100-year parade. Dave Vanderveen seconded. This was not discussed.

## NEW BUSINESS:

June 20 meeting will be at the **LA County Fire Museum**. We will be celebrating Pat Zilliachus's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday as well as Bill Dillon's 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

On May 11<sup>th</sup> the Seal Beach Mayor and City Counsel presented USSVI LA/P with a proclamation for our service (see page 6), noting the memorial and the memorial highway.

## GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Memorial Day Ceremony will be May 25 at 1130. Be there early for a good set.

## ADJOURNMENT:

Dennis Bott moved and Mike Swanson seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 1142 Hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

*Stan Westrick*

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI





At the May 11, 2026, SEAL BEACH CITY COUNCIL meeting, Mayor Lisa Landau formally recognized the USSVI LA/P BASE with a proclamation that honored our Base's enduring commitment to preserving the memory of lost submariners, acknowledging the history of the memorial and the stretch of PCH named "US WWII Submarine Veterans Memorial Highway," and thanking us for promoting patriotism within the community. The proclamation was accepted on behalf of USSVI LA/P by Base Commander, **Darin Detwiler.**



City of  
**Seal Beach**  
State of California

# Proclamation

**HONORING THE UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC.,  
LOS ANGELES/PASADENA BASE ON THE OCCASION OF 66 YEARS OF SERVICE**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Submarine Veterans Inc. Los Angeles / Pasadena Base has, for 66 years, upheld a solemn and enduring mission to perpetuate the memory of those who gave their lives in submarine service, ensuring that their sacrifice beneath the seas is never forgotten; and,

**WHEREAS**, these veterans represent a tradition of service defined by discipline, courage, and quiet resolve, forged in one of the most demanding environments in military service and carried forward into the community through leadership, mentorship, and civic engagement; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Los Angeles / Pasadena Base has strengthened bonds of camaraderie among submarine veterans, creating a community where shared experience becomes continued purpose, and where service to one another extends into meaningful service for others; and,

**WHEREAS**, the organization remains steadfast in its support of the United States Submarine Force, honoring both those who served in times of war and those who continue to serve today in defense of our nation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the United States Submarine Veterans of Los Angeles / Pasadena, based in Seal Beach, worked to secure passage by the California State Legislature in 2000 naming the stretch of Pacific Coast Highway from Huntington Beach north through Seal Beach to the Los Angeles County line as the "US WWII Submarine Veterans Memorial Highway," ensuring permanent public recognition of the sacrifice and legacy of America's submarine veterans; and,

**WHEREAS**, for nearly 50 years, the members of this Base have served as dedicated stewards of the U.S. Submarine Veterans WWII National Memorial West, located at Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, preserving a sacred place of remembrance that stands as a visible and lasting tribute to the submariners lost during World War II; and,

**WHEREAS**, through their commitment to honoring history, educating future generations, and promoting patriotism, the members of this Base ensure that the legacy of the Silent Service continues to inspire and guide the Seal Beach community and beyond; and,

**WHEREAS**, under the leadership of Base Commander Dr. Darin Detwiler, the Los Angeles / Pasadena Base continues to demonstrate that service does not end when the uniform is set aside, but instead evolves into a lifelong commitment to remembrance, responsibility, and community engagement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that Mayor Lisa Landau and Members of the Seal Beach City Council do hereby proclaim recognize and honor the United States Submarine Veterans Inc., Los Angeles / Pasadena Base for 66 years of distinguished service and commend its members for their unwavering dedication to remembrance, camaraderie, patriotism, and the City of Seal Beach.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto set our hands and caused this proclamation to be issued this Memorial Day in the City of Seal Beach, California.

*Lisa Landau*  
Lisa Landau, Mayor

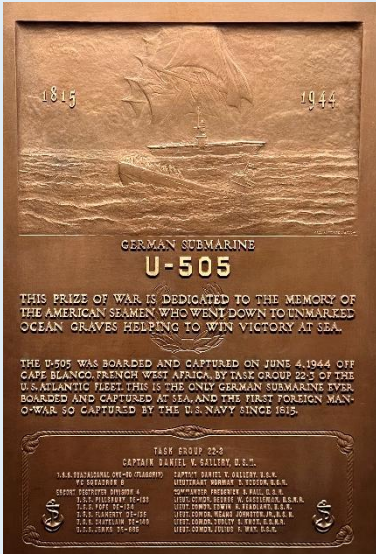
Mayor Pro Tem: Ben Wong  
City Council Members:  
Joe Kalmick  
Patty Senecal  
Nathan Steele



# Not Your 'Typical' Museum Boat

Story and Photos from Exhibit by Darin Detwiler

## Submarines in the Public Eye

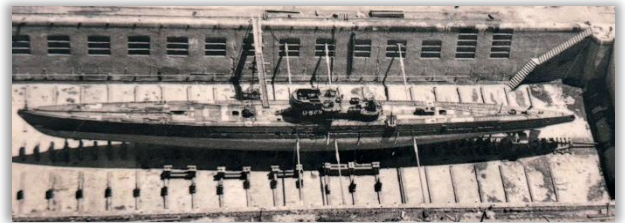


The mission remained secret until after Germany surrendered in May 1945, allowing Allied codebreakers to continue reading German naval communications without alerting the enemy.

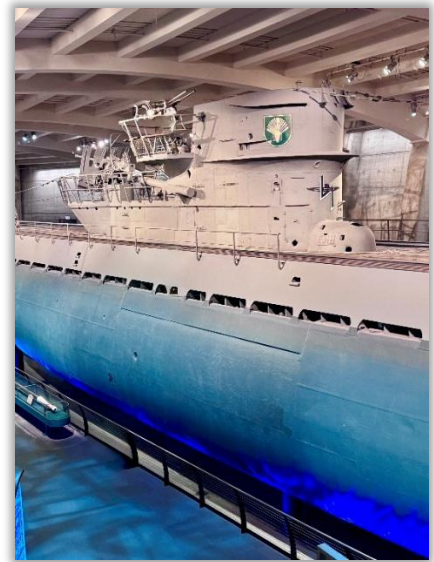


After the war, the submarine was taken on tour as a war exhibit along the East Coast. In 1954, the Navy donated U-505 to Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry. Tugboats guided it through the Great Lakes, arriving in Chicago Harbor on September 25, 1954. The submarine was later moved onto the museum grounds.

In 2004, after decades outdoors, U-505 underwent a major preservation project and was **relocated** into a climate-controlled underground exhibit at **Chicago's Griffin Museum of Science and Industry**, on exhibit since 2005.



Today, U-505 remains one of the few surviving German U-boats and a lasting symbol of World War II intelligence, naval warfare, and historical preservation.



The capture of U-505 was the first enemy warship taken by the U.S. Navy at sea since the War of 1812 and became one of the most important intelligence victories of World War II.



### Name Badges (and more!)

Shawn, the owner, is a Navy Veteran who has worked with us for a long time and has the Dolphins as well as our national and base logo templates!

Shawn Fitzpatrick - Owner

**University Trophies & Awards**  
 (562) 429-0415  
 4221 E. Willow (at Lakewood) Long Beach, CA 90815  
 www.universitytrophies.com  
 e-mail: sales@universitytrophies.com



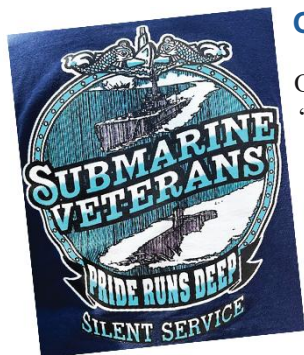
## L.A.-Pasadena Base's Holland Club Roster:

(75-year members noted with \*)

Arthur B. Schwartz .....	2025
Scott Hultner .....	2024
Stanley O. Westrick.....	2024
Bruce Danielson.....	2023
Ronald R. Jones .....	2023
Larry Duncan .....	2022
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. Berezny .....	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
Elliot Rada .....	2017
Ronald G. Wagner.....	2017
Dennis J. Walsh.....	2017
Michael Kish.....	2016
Charles B. McCarthy, Jr. ...	2016
Gary Wheaton .....	2016
Lawrence R. Butler .....	2015
Samuel T. Higa.....	2015

(concluded next page)

## SHIP'S STORE

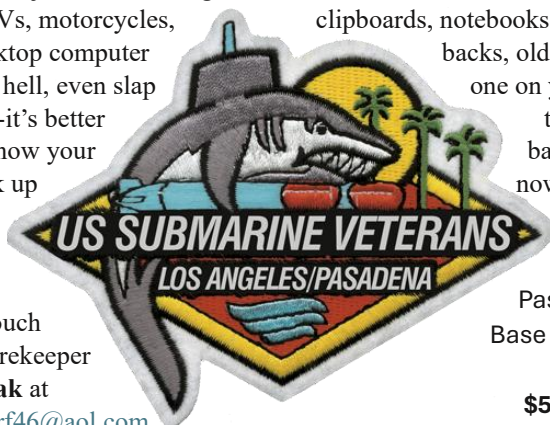


### Clearance Price on T-Shirts!

Our ever-popular L.A.-Pasadena Base "Submarine Veterans" 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 Bill Moak for yours, or just bring a few extra bucks to the next meeting, you skinflint!

### L.A.-Pasadena Base Logo Stickers!

They're not just for the refrigerator, bubblehead! Stick 'em on cars, trucks, RVs, motorcycles, clipboards, notebooks, laptops, desktop computer backs, old steamer trunks... hell, even slap one on your forehead-it's better than a base pride tattoo! Show your and stock up



Get in touch with Storekeeper **Bill Moak** at [Golfnsurf46@aol.com](mailto:Golfnsurf46@aol.com)

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

- Ken Dorn (multiple)
- Stan Westrick • Bill Moak
- Dennis Bott (multiple)



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!**



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.**

**(Holland Club  
Roster, concluded)**

(75-year members noted with \*)

Harry P. Ross .....2015  
 Charles H. Senior.....2015  
 Larry E. Smith .....2015  
 David Palagyi .....2014  
 Earl Thomas Peratt, Jr.....2014  
 David D. Semrau, DDS ...2014  
 Ray Tracy Teare.....2014  
 Milton Harry Boudov .....2013  
 Kenneth Jon Dorn.....2013  
 M. Mark Hoffer .....2013  
 Michael P. Klein .....2013  
 Ronald L. Levenson.....2013  
 Edward L. Arnold.....2012  
 T. Michael Bircumshaw...2012  
 Raymond Cheesebrough..2012  
 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  
 Robert E. Fleming .....2010  
 Stephen D. Diumentì .....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  
 \*Patrick Zilliachus.....1994  
 \*William J. Dillon .....1993



**Los Angeles – Pasadena Base**

**2026 Calendar of Upcoming Events**

January 17 Monthly Meeting – VFW Anaheim “Hobo Stew Day”  
 February 21 Monthly Meeting – L.A. Co. Fire Museum  
 March 21 Monthly Meeting - Simi Valley Military History Museum  
 April 16-19 WESTERN REGIONAL ROUNDUP (Las Vegas)  
 April 18 Monthly Meeting - *VIRTUAL* [Recording can be viewed here:  
<https://youtu.be/j3RPIOfmVb0> ]  
 May 16 Monthly Meeting - **Marni’s Restaurant** (formerly “Glory Days”) 620 PCH in Seal Beach. [Nominating Committee Appointed]  
 May 16 **Pat Zilliachus’ 100th Birthday Party:** 1:00 pm at Westchester Sr. Center, 8740 Lincoln Blvd., Los Angeles (310-649-3319).  
 May 23 **Light clean-up** at the US SUBMARINE VETERANS WWII NATIONAL MEMORIAL WEST from 10-12.  
 May 25 **Memorial Day Ceremony.** 11:30 – 1 (ish) Coordinated with S.B. Lions Club @ Eisenhower Park (Seal Beach Pier).  
 June 13 Seal Beach Health Expo \* - USSVI Booth 10:00 – 2:00  
 June 20 **MONTHLY MEETING \* - Los Angeles County Fire Museum** 16400 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower, CA 90706. [Call for nominations for 2027 Base Officers]  
 June 27 **Pop-up at Seal Beach Pier.** \* USSVI Booth 11:00 – 3:00  
 July 4 Annual Fourth of July Parade in Huntington Beach \*  
 July 18 **MONTHLY MEETING @ VFW Anaheim** - 805 E. Sycamore Street, Anaheim, CA 92805  
 August 15 **MONTHLY MEETING \* - “Hawaii” Theme at Dennis Walsh’s home** in Brea. [2027 Base Officer Candidates Announced]  
 September 6-11 USSVI NATIONAL CONVENTION \* in **Corpus Christi, Texas**  
 September 19 **MONTHLY MEETING.** (Location TBD) [Election of Officers]  
 October 17 **MONTHLY MEETING** (Location TBD) [Annual Officer Installation Luncheon]  
 November 21 **MONTHLY MEETING @ VFW Anaheim** - 805 E. Sycamore Street, Anaheim, CA 92805: “Thanksgiving” Theme  
 December 5 **Pop-up at Seal Beach Pier.** \* USSVI Booth 11:00 – 3:00  
 December 19 **Annual CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** \* at the **NAVY GOLF COURSE** 5660 Oranewood Ave., Cypress, CA 90630



**BLUE** = Active hyperlinks

\* = See ‘fliers’ for more details later in this issue

## CORRESPONDENCE

We recently received an email from Jennifer Lavigne who shared the passing of her father, **Norman Lavigne**, a former member of the USSVI LOS ANGELES / PASADENA BASE. Norm went on Eternal Patrol on March 27, 2025, at the age of 92 - laid to rest with honors in Hampton, New Hampshire.

Norm served as an EN3(SS) engineman aboard the USS *Sea Robin* (SS-407) during the Korean War, earning his submarine qualification in 1953.

After his Navy service, Norm built a life centered on family, craftsmanship, and simple joys. He raised three children, later welcoming grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jennifer shared that his time in the Silent Service was a source of lasting pride. He often spoke of those years and, up until the day of his passing, continued to wear his submarine jacket, ring, and belt buckle.

Jennifer also shared that she remains connected to the submarine community as an Associate Member of the ROCKY MOUNTAIN BASE, where she carries forward that same spirit of service as the Base *Kaps 4 Kids* Chairman.

# 2026 USSVI Western Regional Roundup

## Sam's Town, Las Vegas, NV



Base Commander **Darin Detwiler** poses with entrance banner

Some friends of USSVI LA/P



**Barry Commons**  
of BC Patch



**Jennifer Dugan**  
"The Vest Lady"



**Dave Vanderveen** and **Mike Swanson**  
recognized for their leadership in the  
WESTERN REGIONAL ROUNDUP Team



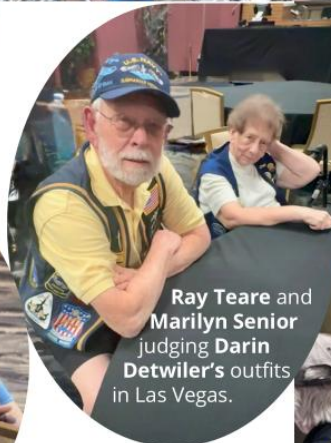
**Glen McNeece**  
and wife, **Joyce**



**Dave Vanderveen, Chuck Senior, Mike Swanson, and Ray Teare** participate in a virtual meeting with **Darin Detwiler (r)**, and online participants from our base.



**Chuck Senior**, Editor: *The American Submariner Magazine*, and **Marilyn Senior**, Membership Director



**Ray Teare** and **Marilyn Senior** judging **Darin Detwiler's** outfits in Las Vegas.



**Dave Vanderveen** leads a workshop at the Roundup



# 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

## JUNE TOLLING OF THE BOATS



USS HERRING (SS-233)

Lost on 1 June 1944 with the loss of 80 men near Matsuwa / Matua Island (in the Sea of Okhotsk.) *Herring* was on her eighth war patrol and was conducting a surface attack when a shore battery spotted her and made two direct hits on her conning tower, causing her loss. *Herring* was the only U.S. submarine sunk by a land battery.



USS R-12 (SS-89)

Lost on 12 June 1943 with the loss of 42 men near Key West, Florida, during a practice torpedo approach. The cause was probably due to flooding through a torpedo tube. The CO and two other men on the bridge survived, as did 18 crew members on liberty at the time of the accident.



USS GOLET (SS-361)

Lost on 14 June 1944 with the loss of 82 men. On her second war patrol, *Golet* was apparently lost in battle with antisubmarine forces north of Honshu.



USS BONEFISH (SS-223)

Lost on 18 June 1945 with the loss of 85 men when sunk near Suzu Misaki. A recipient of three Navy Unit Citations, *Bonefish* was on her eighth war patrol. After sinking a passenger Cargoman, *Bonefish* was subjected to a savage depth charge attack. She was the last SubPac submarine lost in World War II.



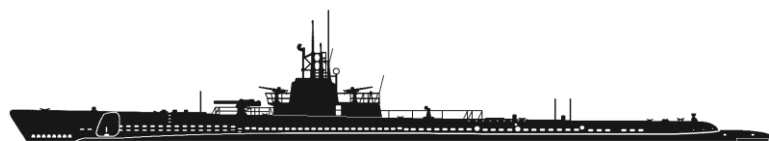
USS S-27 (SS-132)

Lost on 19 June 1942 when it grounded off Amchitka Island (in Alaska's Aleutian Islands) *S-27* was on the surface in poor visibility, charging batteries and drifted into the shoals. When she could not be freed and started listing, the captain got the entire crew to shore (400 yards away) in relays using a three-man rubber raft. The entire crew was subsequently rescued.



USS O-9 (SS-70)

Lost on 20 June 1941 with the loss of 34 men when it foundered off Isle of Shoals, 15 nautical miles from Portsmouth, NH.



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

# Preserving the Memorial

TM1(SS) Kania John is an active-duty Navy Recruiter whose past boats include USS Wyoming (SSBN-742) and USS Florida (SSGN-728).



[Circle]: Saturday, May 23, 2026 - USSVI LA / P Base Commander **Darin Detwiler** welcomed Westminister Navy Recruiter Petty Officer in Charge - **TM1(SS) Kania John** (left) and **Seal Beach Lions Club** President **Kevin Young** (right) to a field day at U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS WWII NATIONAL MEMORIAL WEST



Incoming Seal Beach Lions Club President **Nikki Muller**

The Seal Beach Lions Club has been serving the communities of Seal Beach, Rossmoor and Los Alamitos since 1939. They are the largest Lions Club in the Western Hemisphere!

In 2022, the Lions Club spearheaded a huge restoration project at the U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS WWII NATIONAL MEMORIAL WEST, raising thousands of dollars and providing countless hours of volunteer labor.

[Below]: **Detwiler** with Memorial Director **Dennis Bott**, **TM1(SS) Kania John**, and 15 members of the **Seal Beach Lions Club** cleaned the memorial casements, vases, paths, the torpedo, and the reflecting pool. USSVI LA / P Base member **Larry Duncan** stopped by as well!



Back then, **Darin Detwiler**, **Ed Barwick**, (previous Memorial Dir.), **Paul Riggs** (Memorial Dir.) and **Dave Vanderveen** (Base Commander) collaborated with experts and volunteers to restore and protect the memorial.



The Lions Club regularly hold cleaning events at the memorial.





**Pat Zilliacus** led the Pledge of Allegiance. **Ann Grennan** sang three patriotic songs. **Chrissy Orcholski** performed “*Amazing Grace*” on the bagpipe. Salvation Army Major **Joshua Sneed** provided an opening prayer and the closing benediction. **Dave Vanderveen** delivered the TOLLING OF THE BOATS while **Bill Moak** manned the Ship’s Bell. **Ray Teare** Operated the submarine Klaxon horn. **Darin Detwiler** served as the event’s Co-Chair.



Due to national security issues with global events at this time, USSVI LA/P was *not* able to hold our Memorial Day Ceremony at the U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS WWII NATIONAL MEMORIAL WEST, but we made the decision to collaborate with the Lions Club to hold our Tolling of the Boats and other ceremony elements in this year’s Seal Beach City ceremony at Eisenhower Park near the pier.



This year, USSVI LA/P Base Commander **Darin Detwiler** served as Co-Chair with **John Osborn** (U.S. Army, retired) – both being members of the [Seal Beach Lions Club](#) and the [Seal Beach Chamber of Commerce](#).



[Below] - The two senior enlisted leaders from the NAVAL WEAPONS STATION SEAL BEACH, CMDCM(SS) **Paul Workman** and MCPO (SS) **Jerry Struble**, are introduced to WWII Submarine Veteran **Pat Zilliacus**.

*Read about Pat’s 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party later in this issue!*

We do plan to hold the 2027 Memorial Day Ceremony at the ideal location: the U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS WWII NATIONAL MEMORIAL WEST – as usual, but for The Memorial’s **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary!**



The U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS WWII NATIONAL MEMORIAL WEST was dedicated on Memorial Day of 1977 by the members of the WWII Submarine Veterans who later became the U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc.



USSVI LA/P Member **Ron Jones** (also with the Buffalo Soldiers) leading flag placement at the **LOS ANGELES NATIONAL CEMETERY** on May 23, 2026.



**Bill Moak** and **Ray Teare** re-positioning the event's wreaths. Members **Larry Duncan** and **Bruce Danielson** helped to make sure the posters and easels stayed in place. **Dave Vanderveen** delivered the Tolling of the Boats. **Dennis Bott** with the posters of submarine losses. Bott is our Memorial Director and arranged for the vocalist, the bagpipe musician, the chaplain, the anchor wreath, and all the carnations. The **S.E. County Young Marines** on flag and anchor duty.



# This Month in Submarine History



PRIDE RUNS DEEP



**June** has a way of reminding us that the sea is never quiet for long. Beneath the surface and across the horizon, this month carries moments of triumph, innovation, and sacrifice that continue to define the Submarine Service.

On June 4, 1942, the **BATTLE OF MIDWAY** shifted the balance of power in the Pacific. One of the most decisive turning points in naval history. While often remembered for carrier aviation, the outcome created new opportunities for U.S. submarines to press the fight against Japanese supply lines. It reinforced a lesson that still holds true today. Control of the sea is never about one platform. It is about coordination, timing, and trust across the fleet.

On June 6, 1944, the **ALLIED INVASION OF NORMANDY**, known as **D-DAY**, unfolded. While the beaches dominate the story, the operation depended on a vast naval effort that included undersea reconnaissance and coordinated maritime support. Even when submarines are not front and center, their influence runs deep in the success of joint operations.

June also brings us into the **COLD WAR**, where the mission evolved but the responsibility only grew. On June 26, 1962, the **USS Ethan Allen (SSBN-608)** began the first operational patrol armed with the Polaris A-2 missile. This marked a shift toward strategic deterrence. Submarines became silent sentinels, operating unseen to prevent conflict before it could begin. June is not only a month of milestones. It is also a time of remembrance.

In May 1968, **USS Scorpion (SSN-589)**, returning from deployment, was lost in the Atlantic with all 99 aboard. When the submarine failed to report as scheduled, a massive search effort was launched. Aircraft, surface ships, and submarines swept the waters west of the Azores, searching for any sign of their shipmates.

By early June, hope gave way to reality. On June 6, 1968, the Chief of Naval Operations officially declared *Scorpion* and her crew as "*presumed lost.*" The following day, a memorial service at Naval Station Norfolk brought together a Navy and a nation already carrying the weight of a difficult year. The loss of *Scorpion* stands alongside that of *Thresher* as a solemn reminder of the risks carried beneath the surface. It also strengthened the resolve behind programs like SUBSAFE, ensuring that lessons paid for in sacrifice would lead to safer operations for those who follow.

Looking across these moments, a pattern emerges. June reflects the full spectrum of submarine service. Victory and vigilance. Innovation and deterrence. And the quiet, enduring cost of standing watch in places few will ever see.

That is the legacy this month leaves us. Not just history, but a standard carried forward by every submariner who earns their Dolphins.

*Do you have a sea story to share? A photo to share? An unbelievable reunion tale?  
Insights on visiting museum boats? Submarine artwork to brag about?*

Please consider sharing in our newsletter. Contact Darin at [dsetwiler680@gmail.com](mailto:dsetwiler680@gmail.com)

# ETERNAL PATROL

## STS2(SS) Sam Aboulafia

(1944 – 2026)

Sam Aboulafia joined the United States Navy in 1963, trained in Anti-Submarine Warfare in San Diego then Basic Submarine School in New London in 1964.

Sam reported aboard the USS Von Steuben (SSBN-632) in 1964 As a Sonar Technician Second Class, assigned to the Blue Crew. That same year, Sam earned his Submarine Warfare qualification. In 1965, after the *Von Steuben* began her operational mission out of Charleston, South Carolina, Sam took part in five strategic deterrent patrols, including above the Arctic Circle.

Sam concluded his active-duty service in 1967, carrying forward the values forged beneath the surface. He went on to build a life across California, Nevada, and, later, in Florida. In 1994, he joined USSVI, continuing his commitment to service, remembrance, and community. He became a Life Member in 2020 and remained active with both the LOS ANGELES / PASADENA BASE in California and, later, the USS TANG BASE in Tampa Bay, Florida.

Sam's life reflects the true nature of submarine service, defined not by visibility, but by responsibility. He served when the world relied on men like him to stand watch in silence, to be ready without recognition, and to carry a burden few would ever fully see.

Today we recognize Sam Aboulafia not only the uniform he wore, but the life he lived. A life of purpose. A life that helped preserve peace. His service did not seek attention. But it made a difference...one that will not be forgotten.



Sam Aboulafia (left) being inducted into the HOLLAND CLUB in 2014 by Bill Moak



Sam Qualified in Submarine Warfare, 1964



Sam served aboard USS Von Steuben (SSBN-632), 1964-1967

## Sailor, rest your oars. We have the watch.



Photos from April 28, 2026, interment of Sam Aboulafia (with full military honors) in Bay Pines, Florida. Images and details courtesy of Jerry Anderson, Base Commander, USSVI TANG BASE.



# USSVI JUNE EVENTS

## USSVI LA/P June 20, 2026 Meeting

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE MUSEUM**  
16400 Bellflower Blvd, Bellflower, CA 90706

HOME OF  
THE WORLD  
FAMOUS  
ENGINE 51  
&  
SQUAD 51



PLENTY  
OF  
PARKING  
IN THE  
BACK



10am – Executive Board Meeting  
11am – General Meeting  
12pm – Special Activities



Special Thanks to the  
L.A. Country Fire Museum and to  
USSVI member **Ken Dorn** for his generous  
leadership and coordination of this meeting location.



THE 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
2026 seal beach  
**BE MORE  
HEALTHY  
EXPO**

PRESENTED BY THE  
SEAL BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**SATURDAY,  
June 13, 2026**  
10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM  
AT THE SEAL BEACH PIER

**FREE ADMISSION!  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**ATTRACTIONS**

- FITNESS DEMONSTRATIONS
- FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS FOR ALL AGES
- VENDORS OFFERING HEALTH & WELLNESS PRODUCTS AND SERVICES
- KIDS FIT & FUN ZONE

More Information and Vendor Registration:  
FB | Instagram: @SealBeachHealthExpo  
Admin@sealbeachchamber.org  
Chamber Office: (562) 799-0179

**SEAL BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CITY OF SEAL BEACH CALIFORNIA**

**USSVI LA/P Booth**

**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE / PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**  
All volunteers welcome! We already have some volunteers who signed up during our March meeting. Bring hat, vest, drinks, snacks, chair, etc. Darin will bring canopy tent, table, two chairs, and membership marketing items. 10-12 or 12-2 shift available. For more information: Call or email Darin (425) 232-5743 - ddetwiler680@gmail.com

### SEAL BEACH PIER

**POP-UPS AT THE PIER**  
*Seal Beach Community Marketplace*

**SATURDAY, JUNE 27** 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

**EISENHOWER PARK**  
At the base of the Seal Beach Pier

**What You'll Find**

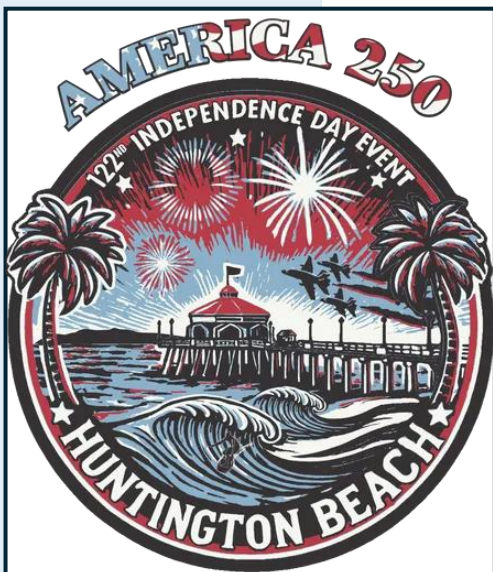
- Local Artisans & Handmade Goods
- Boutique Clothing, Hats & Accessories
- Fresh Baked Goods & Sweet Treats
- Live DJ & Beachside Tunes

**FREE COMMUNITY EVENT**  
Support Local • Shop Small • Enjoy the Coast

**SEAL BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
SealBeachChamber.org

**USSVI Booth**

# USSVI FUTURE EVENTS



**2026  
4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY  
PARADE**



**National Convention**  
Sep 06 - Sep 11, 2026  
Corpus Christi, Texas  
<https://subvetconvention.org>

**July  
18**  
  
**Monthly  
Meeting  
@  
VFW  
Anaheim**

## USSVI LA/P

### AUGUST MEETING

**Hawaiian Theme**

E-BOARD MEETING 10-11  
GENERAL MEETING 11-12  
MERRIMENT 12 - ?

Dennis Walsh's  
House w/ Pool  
925 Carlson Dr.  
Brea, CA 92821

**AUG  
15**

**Aloha!**

**Hawaiian  
Theme**

Great items to bring:  
Hat, Swim Shorts, Towel,  
Shade, Table, Chairs,  
Meat to BBQ, Sides to share,  
Drinks to share, Ice Chest, etc.

**NOV 21**  
**Monthly  
Meeting:**  
*Thanksgiving  
Theme*

  
**VFW Anaheim**

  
**Christmas  
Luncheon**  
December 19

## NOT JUST A NEWSLETTER: Jeffrey Porteous' Enduring Impact

For more than seven years and over 80 issues of *The Periscope*, **Jeffrey Porteous** has been the steady hand behind the words that connect our base. Through leadership changes, shifting priorities, and even the uncertainty of a global pandemic, he showed up. Month after month. Editing issue after issue of our base newsletter. Not because he had to, but because he believed in the mission and the men behind it. As he now steps away from this role to focus on family matters, it is important to recognize the extraordinary contribution he has made to our base and our shared history.

Jeffrey often refers to himself as a “Submariner-wannabe.” But spend any time with him and the work he has done, and that label feels far too modest. Submariners understand commitment. They understand standing watch when no one else is looking. That is exactly what Jeffrey has done. He has taken stories, memories, and milestones and turned them into something lasting. Something that honors service, preserves history, and strengthens connection across generations.

His professional background made that possible. A career spanning nearly four decades in advertising, copywriting, and design. A foundation in creative writing from Michigan State University, with leadership as Copy Editor for *American Submariner* and Managing Editor of *The Subcommittee Report*. But what mattered most was how he chose to use those skills.

In many ways, Jeffrey has done what the best shipmates do. He made others look good. He carried the message forward. And he ensured that the voice of this base remained clear, consistent, and worthy of the legacy it represents.

We thank Jeffrey Porteous for his service as Base Newsletter Editor, 2019–2026.



PRIDE RUNS DEEP



## BASE RECOGNITION

Earlier this year, [State Senator Tony Strickland, R-36 Huntington Beach](#), nominated the UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS INC. (USSVI) LOS ANGELES / PASADENA BASE for “Non-Profit of the Year.”

Though nominated, our base did not win the award. The 2026 honor was ultimately awarded to GAMECHANGER CHARITY in Dana Point. Still, we should be clear about what this nomination represents. It is not simply a line on a page. It is a recognition of impact. It is a signal that the work being done - often quietly, often without fanfare - is being seen.

For more than a decade, California Nonprofits Day has helped shine a light on organizations like ours. And when leaders take the time to recognize nonprofits in their districts, something important happens - they don't just acknowledge the work, they begin to understand it. They see the needs. They see the people behind the mission. And they see what's possible when service leads.

Because our base members show up - with pride that runs deep - for veterans navigating life after service, for families who carry that journey alongside them, and for communities made stronger through that commitment. United in service and remembrance, we stand together to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates, honor their sacrifice, and ensure that their legacy endures. This nomination reflects not only years of dedication, but a shared creed: to support one another, to serve with purpose, and to never forget those who gave their all.

That's what this nomination represents. Not just recognition, but responsibility. To keep showing up. To keep serving. And to keep building the kind of community worthy of those who have served before us.

NOMINEE

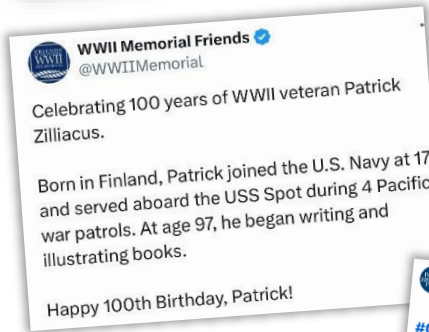


Maybe next year!

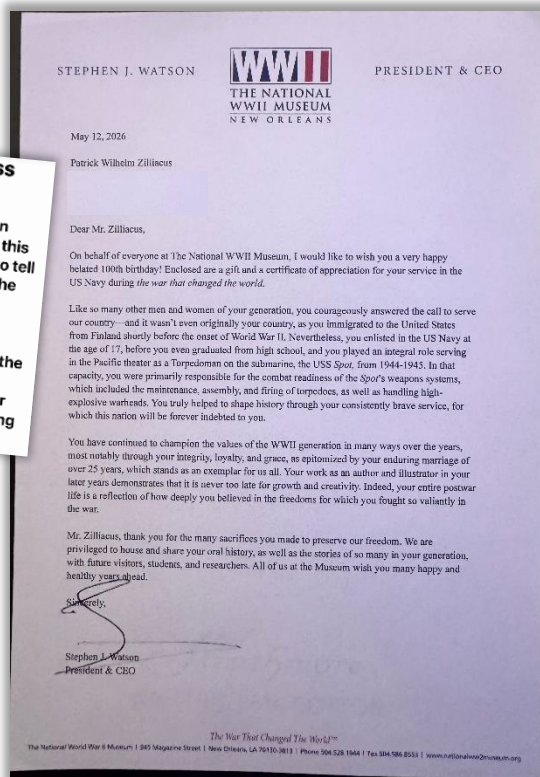
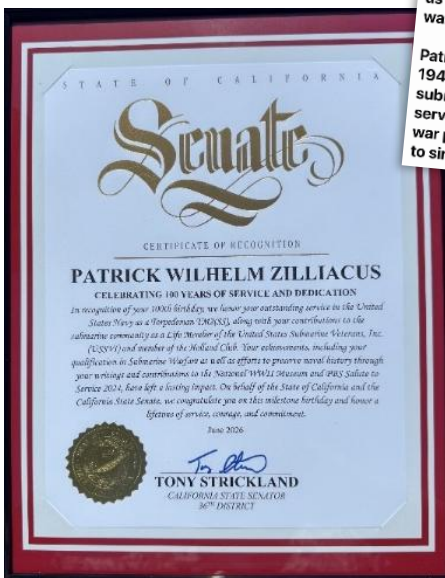
# USSVI LA/P WWII Submarine Veteran Patrick Ziliacus TM2(SS) Turns 100

Pat was born in 1926, Served in the **United State Navy** 1943 to 1947, and in the **Active Reserves** as an officer until 1961. Pat wrote [Stops Along the Way: A Lookback Over Almost a Century](#). You can read his [oral history featured in the NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM Digital Collections](#). He was also featured in PBS Television's 2024 ["Salute to Service 2024: A Veterans Day Celebration."](#)

On Saturday, May 16, 2026, friends, family, and members of USSVI LA/P joined Patrick at his **100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration**. Among many items of note, both Pat and Bill Dillon received California State Senate certificates as well as letters and certificates and gift bags from the [National WWII Museum](#) in New Orleans, LA. Social media was full of celebration posts as well as countless virtual birthday cards from around the world! (Here are two pages of photos!)



**Pacific Historic Parks - USS Arizona Memorial**  
#Oralhistory: World War II veteran Patrick Ziliacus, who turned 100 this month, took some time last year to tell us about his experiences during the war.  
Patrick enlisted in the US Navy in 1943, age 17, and was assigned to the submarine USS Spot (SS-413). He served as a torpedoman during four war patrols aboard USS Spot, helping to sink 17 enemy ships.



PRIDE RUNS DEEP

Qualified in Submarine Warfare, 1944

USS SPOT (SS-413)  
3 War Patrols, 1944-1945

USS TORO (SS-422)  
1947

1. USSVI LA/P Base COB **Bill Moak** presents both **Pat Ziliacus** and **Bill Dillon** with certificates from the California State Senate.
2. The U.S. Flag is raised by service members in uniform.
3. Some 200 people attended the birthday party in Los Angeles, CA!
4. Our two WWII Submarine Veterans
5. **Pat** autographs his book and greets visitors
6. USSVI LA/P Member **Ron Jones** photographs a presentation to **Pat** by Master of Ceremonies - USMC Veteran **Dwight Hanson** from the [You Were Worth IT Foundation](#)
7. All smiles with **Bill Dillon**, **Pat Ziliacus**, and USSVI LA/P Base COB **Bill Moak**.
8. **Tania Dillon**, her father **Bill Dillon** (who turns 102 this year!), **Patrick Ziliacus**, & USSVI LA/P Membership Director **Marilyn Senior**.
9. USSVI LA/P Base COB **Bill Moak** & **Kathleen Carder**
10. USSVI LA/P Director (and *American Submariner* Magazine Editor) **Chuck Senior** and USMC Veteran **Dwight Hanson**
11. (Back) [Gary Littrell](#), [CMOH recipient](#), and Dwight Hanson. (Sitting) FIVE WWII Veterans, including **Bill Dillon** (left) and **Pat Ziliacus** (center).





PRIDE RUNS DEEP



Yes, I used AI to generate this image!

Our USSVI base have already seen emails sent to USSVI members that looked official, asking for money to be sent to fellow members by name. They looked legitimate.

THEY WERE NOT.

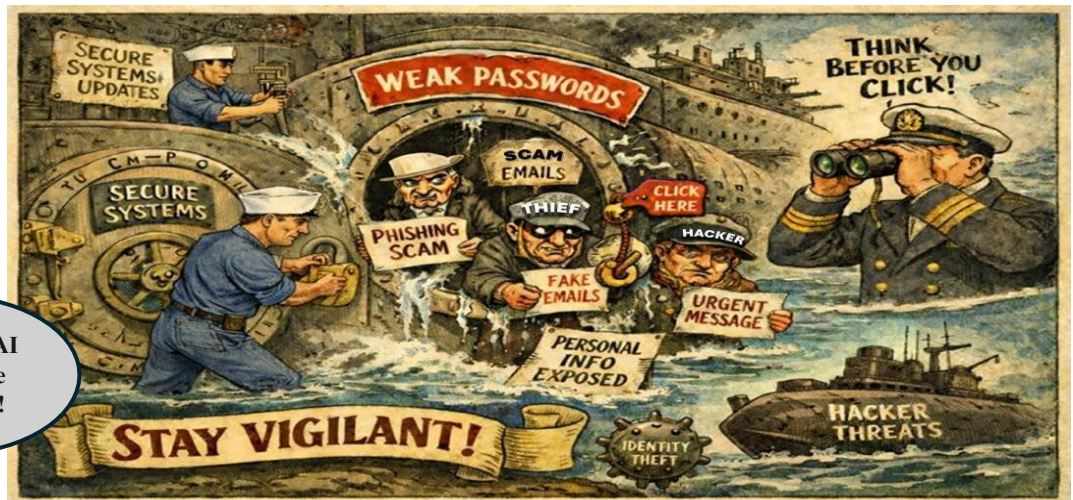
They were attempts to steal from us.

- Darin

CYBERSECURITY

## “Loose Lips Sink Ships...” and So Do Weak Passwords:

A Submarine Veteran’s Guide to Cybersecurity By Darin Detwiler



We served aboard submarines where safety was not theoretical. It was lived, practiced, and enforced every day. A submarine does not fail all at once. It fails when a small vulnerability is ignored, when a hatch is left unsecured, or when a warning sign is dismissed. *Cybersecurity works the same way.*

Today’s threats are not coming through steel hulls. They come through emails, text messages, and websites. They’re not targeting machines – they’re targeting people.

Our first line of defense is simple. Your **passwords**. Think of them as watertight doors. If they are weak or reused, it is like leaving multiple compartments open at once. A strong password should be long, unique, and hard to guess. When each account is protected, a single breach does not spread.

Even strong locks need a second layer. **Two-factor authentication** adds that protection. You are likely to see these with banking and accessing medical portals online. It sends a code to your phone before access is granted. Think of it as requiring both a key *and* confirmation from the control room. Even if someone gets your password, they cannot move forward.

Most attacks, however, do not break in. They are invited in. This is **phishing**. Messages that look like they are from your bank, the VA, or even a fellow veteran. They often create urgency to push you into acting quickly. Pause before you act. Do not click unexpected links. Go directly to official websites or call using a trusted number. On a submarine, you never opened a hatch without verification. The same discipline applies here.

**Keep systems up to date.** Updates fix known security weaknesses. Ignoring them is like operating with known cracks in the hull. Turning on automatic updates is one of the easiest ways to stay protected.

**Protect personal information.** This is your identity. Details like your birthdate, address, or Social Security number can be used to impersonate you when combined. Cybersecurity is not about mastering technology. It is about discipline. The same mindset that kept you and your crew safe still applies.

- **Share carefully. Question requests.** *If it does not feel right, it probably is not.*
- **Slow down. Verify before you act.**
- **NEVER respond to unverified requests for information or money.**



**USS IDAHO (SSN-799)**

The U.S. Navy commissioned USS *Idaho* (SSN 799), a Block IV *Virginia*-class fast-attack submarine, on April 25, 2026, at Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton Connecticut.

It is the fifth U.S. Navy vessel named for the Gem State.

The 377-foot nuclear-powered vessel is designed for advanced stealth, surveillance, and special warfare, capable of diving over 800 feet and speeds exceeding 25 knots.

Did you go to [NPTU in Idaho?](#)



# 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 <i>Columbia</i> (SSN-721)          | USS <i>Montana</i> (SSN-794)        |
| USS <i>Connecticut</i> (SSN-22)        | USS <i>North Dakota</i> (SSN-784)   |
| 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) |                                     |

**Questions?**  
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USS Idaho?



*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		

