Volume 18, Number 3 • March 2022



PRIDE RUNS DEEP



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

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Editor's Corner

Plenty happening in our chapter! Be sure to check skipper Dave's update, plus meeting minutes, bulletins and Mail Buoys throughout this issue to get all caught up with everything.

Bad News Dept.: Our good friend and shipmate Phil Jaskoviak has suffered a stroke and is entering rehab for much therapy. Family asks we lay off the calls and queries for now. We'll get updates...—Jeff

How the Navy Used a Submarine Armed with Rocket Launchers to Terrorize Japan

(Reproduced from The National Interest website - originally published November 12, 2019.) by Sebastien Roblin

(This is a familar story to most of us, but an important one bearing repeating.—ed.)



Meet the famous USS Barb (SS-220)—a fleet submarine used most innovatively toward the end of the World War II. (U.S. Navy/Wikipedia photo.)

n the closing months of World War II, heavy losses and depleted fuel stocks kept many of Japan's remaining combat aircraft grounded and warships in port, awaiting an anticipated amphibious invasion. Starting in July 1945, Allied battleships embarked on a series of naval bombardments of coastal cities in Japan in an effort to draw these forces out to battle—with little success. However, a week before the battleships began lobbing their massive shells, a legendary U.S. submarine toting a rocket launcher began its own campaign of coastal terror that foretold the future of naval warfare—and also engaged in the only Allied ground-combat operation on Japanese home-island soil.

Submarines still made use of deck guns during World War II, most of them ranging between three and five inches in caliber. These were used to finish off unarmed merchant ships or sink smaller vessels that could evade torpedoes —but also were occasionally directed to bombard coastal targets, such as in early-war Japanese raids on the coasts of California and Australia.

(continued on page 22)

ate. Breaking News



BASE COMMANDER - CO

Dave Vanderveen

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

VICE COMMANDER - XO

Ed Barwick

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

SECRETARY - OPS

Bill Moak

2865 Helm Street Simi Valley, CA 93065 805-581-4419 golfnsurf46@aol.com

TREASURER - WEPS

Mike Swanson

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

CHIEF OF THE BOAT - COB

Rav Teare

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

MEMORIAL DIRECTOR

Paul Riggs

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

IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER Bill Moak

L.A.-PASADENA BASE WEBSITE www.socalsubvets.org

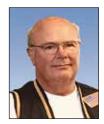
The Periscope is a monthly publication of the Los Angeles-Pasadena Base of USSVI

Newsletter Editor

Jeff Porteous

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

From the Wardroom...



Dave Vanderveen, Base Commander

Shipmates and Ladies,

COVID continues to recede and social routines are resuming! I am so glad!

Significant progress has been made in our effort to continue as a "tenant" of Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach. You'll likely recall we were notified we must vacate Building 6, that we needed to establish a formal agreement for occupancy of whatever new facility would be available, and that we also need new identification devices to access the Station.

I learned at the end of last week that we will be using the picnic area of Bunker 33 for our meetings through the warm, dry months this year. About September, we will establish an agreement to use Building 16, and will continue that for approximately two years. In 2024, Building 10, currently occupied by the Station's Security Force, will become a meeting and conference space. We will at that time apply to the Station Command to be housed in part of that new space.

Meanwhile, we are arranging commercial storage space into which we will soon move our memorabilia and supplies from Building 6. Arrangements are being made to allow us access to the Weapons Station, and that includes background checks for each of us and any adult guests we invite. Children accompanying a subvet will be allowed onto the Station without special permission.

We will hold our meetings beginning March 19th at Bunker 33, where our Leroy Stone Memorial Picnic has been held for many years.

A unique opportunity has arisen for one of you lucky contestants! Paul Riggs, our Memorial Director, has requested to be relieved. Barbara, his wife, needs more of his time at home. Whomever would be interested in becoming Memorial Director, please contact me or Paul. He has graciously offered to be available for a smooth and thorough turnover. Preparations are already underway for two ceremonies at the Memorial this coming spring. A service will be held on April 23rd for Jan and Mark Maynard, and our annual Memorial Day Ceremony will occur on May 30th. As details of the Maynard family's plan become available, I will forward them to you.

Our February meeting was unusual. We gathered on the patio of a local cantina, had a good, semi-public discussion of our base business (some patrons preferred to be outside with us rather than inside the restaurant/bar), and enjoyed some good, old fashioned social contact! The Mexican food and adult beverages were pretty darned good, too. Enjoyable as it was, I am glad we can soon resume our more "normal" routine of Pot Luck lunch meetings. I am looking forward to it!

Dave Vanderveen

Commander Los Angeles-Pasadena Base



February General Meeting Sailing List

Ed Barwick

Herb "Bo" Bolton

Dennis Bott

Ken Dorn

Robert Frazier

Sam Higa

Jack Mahan

Bill Moak

Paul Riggs

Chuck Senior

Marilyn Senior

Mike Swanson

Ray Teare

Dave Vanderveen

Ron Wagner

Stan Westrick





Minutes of February 19, 2022 General Meeting

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the General Meeting of the L.A.-Pasadena Base to order at the Taco Surf Restaurant in Surfside, CA at 1330 hours.

Mike Swanson led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Dave requesting a moment of silence for our departed shipmates.

Western Regional Roundup:

This year's Roundup is to be held in Reno, and Ken Dorn volunteered to have a Los Angeles-Pasadena Base logo reproduced on Roundup swag by covering the needed \$50 cost of inclusion.

Treasurer's Financial Report: Mike Swanson

The Treasurer's Report as of February 18, 2022 was read into the Minutes by Base Treasurer Mike Swanson:

Checking	\$9,924.80
Savings	\$14,884.92
Cash On Hand	\$50.00
Uncleared Checks:	\$00.00
Total	\$24,859.72

All vendors have been paid up-to-date.

Income:	\$550.00
Expenses:	\$175.00

Flower/Booster Club Additions:

Ken Dorn	\$100.00
Joseph Dow	\$35.00
Mike Varalyai	\$100.00

In kind Donations:

\$00.00.

Varalyai and Maynard Updates:

Dave indicated we lost Mike soon after the loss of Jan and Mark Maynard. Both families have postponed any services at this time. After family services have been completed, L.A.-Pasadena Base will conduct separate services recognizing those lost.

Memorial Report:

Dave indicated there's a lot to be done, but Paul has been on top of it. At the same time we were advised of the unfortunate news that Paul has asked to be relieved as Memorial Director due to family caretaking responsibilities. Dave then asked for any volunteer willing to accept the position. No one did so at this meeting.

Charities Committee Update:

Ed gave a synopsis of the charities we would be contributing to for 2022. Initially, \$90 had been scheduled to go to the Boat Sponsorship program, but the E-Board opted to finance that donation through the General Fund instead. Those charitable organizations now slated to receive donations are: Battleship *Iowa* Military and Veterans Program, \$575; Honor Flight Southland Program, \$575; and USSVI Charities, also \$575. Members are encouraged to submit charities for our chapter's evaluation, but they must meet the criteria for acceptance by the committee. (*See more on pg. 26—ed.*)

Longevity Pins:

Dave pointed out that it had been some time since we had had the opportunity to pass out earned

USS *Muskallunge*Found and Filmed

(Reproduced from Newsweek website; first published 12/29/21) by Ed Browne

Footage of a diving expedition revealing the wreckage of a World War II-era U.S. submarine has been released by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The video clip shows NOAA officers sending a remote underwater robot down more than 2,000 feet underwater and identifying the wreckage of the ex-USS *Muskallunge* (SS-262), a veteran *Gato*-class sub that had served from '42 to '68.

After more than two decades of military use, including several years spent with the Brazilian navy as *Humaitá* (S14), the *Muskallunge* was eventually sunk as a practice target during a training exercise off the coast of New York.

The Muskallunge had been torn in two by a torpedo and sank quickly afterwards, with parts of the submarine imploding as it sank through pressure levels far exceeding what it was designed for. By the time it hit the seabed, the sub had reached a depth more than six times its wartimerated crush depth, its thick steel "dented like a soda can," the press release stated.

Once used as a war vehicle, the submarine has now become a sort of artificial reef, covered in colonies of bubblegum coral, sponges, and numerous fish and squid.

"The largest museum of lost ships is the sea," said the NOAA press release. "And this final dive of the expedition provided [a]...visit [to] one of its...shipwrecks up-close, for the first time."

General Meeting Minutes...

(concluded from previous page)

longevity pins. Dave first recognized Bill Moak for 25 years of membership in USSVI, though two years late. Next was Ed Barwick, 20 years; Marilyn Senior, 15 years; Ron Wagner, 10 years; and Robert Frazier, one year. Please remember this recognizes years of membership in USSVI, not duration in L.A.-Pasadena Base. There are others who have qualified for longevity pins, and you are all encouraged to be present at future meetings so you can receive your pin in person.

Base Access Plans:

Dave covered all the variables involved with our base being able to meet on Weapons Station property. It has been arranged for us to conduct meetings at Bunker 33 for the time being—this until we can perhaps use Bldg. 16, the combined Gym and Lounge. Bldg. 10, now used by Security, is planned to be remodeled; we may be able to use it sometime later as our meeting place. It's likely we can eventually move all our memorabilia and equipment there for storage as well. However, this is a two- to three-year proposition. Arrangements must be made to move our items (still in Bldg. 6, which remains scheduled for demolition) to a public storage unit off base, much as we did when the building was renovated in the past. Dave's contact, Jasmine Ascencia, has agreed to sponsor our members, and arranged for access passes so we can gain temporary access to Bunker 33. A roster of members will be provided, and each member will need two forms of government ID to be allowed access. This will be the procedure until such time as the forms we have submitted have been vetted and ID passes distributed. Our next meeting on March 19 will be conducted at Bunker 33.

Dave asked Chuck Senior to provide an update on Phil Jascoviak, who had suffered a stroke recently. Chuck indicated it has affected Phil's speech and his ability to open his eyelids. Chuck has communicated with Phil's son, and no prognosis has been given for his recovery. Chuck has left word with Phil's son requesting updates, and is awaiting word back.

Good of the Order:

Ray Teare brought up the need to register at Home Depot if anyone wants to receive his/her 10% veterans' discount.

Ken Dorn then related about his experience on TV and movie sets, being generally the only veteran present. He is constantly approached by crew members seeking info. on his experiences. He stated it made him proud that so many would come to him for such information.

Paul and Dave stated that through contact with member Charles Hinman, the number of men lost in WWII on boats has been established as totalling 3,634. We should amend our Memorial script if it differs from this number.

Next meeting in Bunker 33 will be a pot luck as has been the past procedure. I'm sure the breakdown by alphabet will again dictate the type of item(s) to bring.

Bill complimented Mike on our successful and enjoyable Christmas Luncheon. There were many comments as well on the much-improved food and service over the previous year. Dave then thanked Marlene Mahan, Kathleen Carder and Kim De Rosa for the well-done centerpieces and gifts they prepared.

Sam mentioned Jack and Marlene Mahan as having suffered through being diagnosed as COVID-positive. Bill mentioned having fairly recently been diagnosed as positive himself. He indicated mild symptoms, more like a head cold than anything else.

Bill complimented Dave on setting up this meeting at Surf Taco—great service and great food.

There being no further comments, Bill motioned the meeting be adjourned; Paul Riggs seconded and it was passed by all present, ending the meeting at 1414 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Moak

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI

March Meeting at Site Bunker 33 Picnic Site

Date: Mar. 19, 2022

We're finally back! Once again our monthly meetings will take place at the Naval Weapons Station—**NOT AT BLDG. 6,** but at the Bunker 33 Picnic Grounds. We will be meeting at that site on the 3rd Saturday of every month until further notice. Note: you must present two forms of gov't. I.D. to enter the Base.

Location:

Bunker 33 Picnic Site Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station 800 Seal Beach Boulevard Seal Beach, CA 90740

Time:

Social Hour: 10:30-11:30 Lunch: 11:30-12:30 General Meeting: 12:30 till the skipper says we surface

Lunch: Pot Luck Provision assignments by last name:

A-H — Dessert I-R— Main Dish

S-Z— Salad or Vegetable

March Birthdays We hereby extend the happiest

of wishes to all our L.A.-Pasadena Base birthday celebrants. Bill Soulé......3/2 David Rosenfeld......3/2 Richard McPherson3/4 Judy Arnold3/10 Ed Kushins......3/15 Michael Varalyai......3/17 William "Greg" Moore..3/18 Lee Melody3/26 Michael Klein.3/27

Ship's Store



New Reduced Price on T-Shirts!

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



USSVI Logo Patch $(9\frac{3}{4}\times6\frac{3}{4})$ \$11.00 ea.



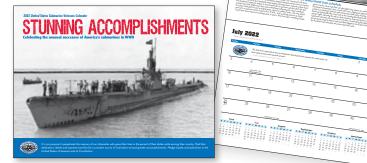
L.A.-Pasadena Base Patch (3% x5)\$5.00 ea.



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

2022 Calendars Now Available!

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



LOS ANGELES/PASAD

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

LOS ANGELES - PASADENA BASE

2022 FLOWER FUND and BOOSTER CLUB

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

Joe Dow (x2) • Ken Dorn (x2) • Mike Varalyai (RIP)

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

UNITED STATES SUBMARINE FORCE LOSSES ON ETERNAL PATROL

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

— Vice Admiral Charles A. Lockwood, USN

MARCH TOLLING OF THE BOATS



USS PERCH (SS-176)

Lost near Java on March 3, 1942 during her first war patrol. There was no immediate loss of life. Forced to surface after two severe depth chargings by three Japanese destroyers in less than 200 feet of water, *Perch*'s crew abandoned ship and scuttled her. Of the fifty-nine officers and men taken prisoner, fifty-three somehow survived the deprivations of POW life while six of their shipmates perished.



USS GRAMPUS (SS-207)

Lost on March 5, 1943 during her sixth war patrol, *Grampus* was sunk while engaging two Japanese destroyers in Vella Gulf. Seventy-one officers and men were lost.

USS H-1 (SS-28)

Lost on March 12, 1920 after grounding on a shoal near Santa Margarita Island off Baja California. Four men drowned as they tried to reach the rescue vessel *Vestal* (AR-4), which had finally arrived to pull the stricken sub off the rocks on the morning of March 24. The *H-1* sank while under tow just forty-five minutes later in only fifty feet of water. She had originally been USS *Seawolf* before designated the *H-1*.



USS TRITON (SS-201)

Lost on March 15, 1943 north of the Admiralty Islands during a fight with three Japanese destroyers. *Triton* had been the first American submarine to engage the enemy in December of 1941, just off Wake Island. Her war record was an impressive nine ships, one submarine, and one destroyer sunk. Seventy-four men lost their lives when *Triton* went down.



USS KETE (SS-369)

Lost on March 20, 1945 at the end of her second war patrol. Eighty-seven officers and men were lost. *Kete* was probably sunk by a Japanese submarine near Okinawa, which itself was subsequently lost.

USS F-4 (SS-23)

Lost on March 25, 1915 when she foundered 1.5 miles off Honolulu. Acid had corroded her battery tank lining, allowing seawater into the compartment which ultimately caused her loss. *F-4* was the first submarine of the United States Navy to be lost at sea. Twenty-one souls went down with her.



USS TULLIBEE (SS-284)

Lost on March 26, 1944 during her fourth war patrol. *Tullibee* was the victim of a circular run by one of her own malfunctioning torpedoes. A lookout was her only survivor; taken prisoner, he ultimately survived the war as a Japanese POW. Seventy-nine officers and men were lost aboard *Tullibee*.



USS TRIGGER (SS-237)

Lost on March 26, 1945 while on her twelfth war patrol. *Trigger* went down as a result of a combined effort by Japanese naval and air anti-submarine forces. She ranked seventh in total tonnage sunk and tied for eighth in number of ships sunk. Eighty-nine officers and men perished when she went down.

Workforce Development, Process Improvements Will Make or Break *Virginia*-Class Sub Program

(Reproduced from Defense News website - originally published Thursday, January 6, 2022.)

by Megan Eckstein



A welder works on a compressed air flask on July 1, 2014, to eventually be installed in a Virginia-class nuclear-powered submarine at the Electric Boat company's Quonset Point facility in North Kingstown, R.I. (Stephan Savoia/AP.)

ASHINGTON — The U.S. Navy's *Virginia*-class attack submarine program is playing catchup after falling at least a year behind schedule. But it's still facing a pair of challenges in the next several years: The addition of a *Virginia* Payload Module will increase the workload to build *Virginia* SSNs by about 33%, and the *Columbia*-class ballistic missile submarine program will consume an increasing proportion of the workforce and attention within the submarine-industrial base—potentially leaving the *Virginia* subs to fall further behind.

Though the Block IV boats now being built by General Dynamics Electric Boat and its industry team originally had a 60-month construction timeline, Electric Boat President Kevin Graney told *Defense News* the timeline is actually in the "low 70s."

But he's hoping to rein in that schedule growth now—driving it down to 68 or 67 months—before that task gets any harder.

One technique is identifying an early milestone—in this case, the initial fill of the nuclear reactor plant—and then trying to achieve that a month early for every submarine.

Additionally, he said, there are a lot of new employees working on the *Virginia* program since many experienced shipbuilders were moved to the *Columbia* program, which is the Navy's top priority and has no room for a schedule slip.

With that fresh labor force comes challenges in getting work done right the first time, but it also means new employees are questioning old processes and sometimes coming up with alternatives that shave time off the schedule.

Graney said the company has been good about empowering employees to do this, but needs to improve when it comes to documenting the successful ideas. He said Electric Boat will relook at its documentation to ensure lessons learned are codified and repeated boat after boat

Graney noted the shipbuilding industry as a whole is struggling to recruit and retain new employees—especially as wages in other sectors rise so much that "the difference between working at a skilled position at a shipyard versus in fast food has kind of shrunk."

Still, his "secret weapon" amid this workforce challenge is the tight collaboration between federal, state and local governments in Connecticut and Rhode Island to create a training pipeline for new recruits.

"We are working harder than I think we would have predicted two years ago on getting recruits, getting them hired, getting them into the training schools, and then getting them out the other end so they can get on the deck plate and start to gain proficiency," Graney said.

"What I'm thrilled about is, we can go in ... and say: 'Hey, we've got a problem with welds passing magnetic particle testing. We want you guys to incorporate something in your curriculum that gets the guys to be proficient.' And in the next cohort, they've got something developed and implemented. So that is an incredible agility that I don't think has ever existed before. Fantastic, provided of course you can find the people and keep the pipelines filled," the executive added.

The success—or failure—of these recruiting, training and retention efforts will impact the *Virginia* program alone, Graney said, because the *Columbia* program will always be given the talent and resources it needs to stay on track.

"If we're short people, we're going to be short people on *Virginia*," he said.

Megan Eckstein is the naval warfare reporter at Defense News. She has covered military news since 2009, with a focus on U.S. Navy and Marine Corps operations, acquisition programs, and budgets. She has reported from four geographic fleets and is happiest when she's filing stories from a ship. Megan is a University of Maryland alumna.

Damaged Attack Submarine USS Connecticut Leaves San Diego on Her Voyage Home

The Submarine is Making Her Way Back to Her Home in Washington State After Slamming into a Seamount in the South China Sea Months Ago.

(Reproduced from The War Zone website - originally published December 15, 2021.) by Tyler Rogoway



USS Connecticut (SSN-22) leaving San Diego. (SanDiego Webcam image via @Warshipcam.)

The Seawolf-class nuclear fast-attack submarine USS Connecticut has had one heck of past few months. She was stuck in Guam for two months after slamming into a seamount in the South China Sea before she could head back to the Continental United States for what will be a very extensive set of repairs. The secret 6,000-plus-mile journey from Guam to San Diego was likely a very unpleasant one for her crew, and even her unannounced arrival in San Diego seemed like more of a diversion than a final destination. The Navy had said that the stricken sub would return to her homeport in Bremerton, Washington, for repairs. Now it appears she is headed on the final leg of her journey out of San Diego and up to the Pacific Northwest.

Our friend and prolific naval ship movements tracker @war-shipcam posted video shot from San Diego Webcam this afternoon showing the bow-less *Connecticut* heading out to sea. She had only been in San Diego for just over three days, arriving on the morning of Sunday, December 12th. At the time, we noted that the destroyer USS *Mustin* (DDG-89) seemed to have escorted her across the Pacific, providing basic safety and force protection for the submarine. Now there is more evidence that this was indeed the case, as that destroyer left San Diego with *Connecticut* this afternoon.

The Navy has offered no details about *Connecticut*'s special voyage. Instead, they have simply clarified that she did arrive in

San Diego and that she was in sound condition after her Pacific crossing.

Stills taken from the video of *Connecticut*'s departure give us our best look at her and the damage to her bow so far.



It still is not clear exactly why she ended up in San Diego first, instead of heading straight to Washington State. It seems most likely that a powerful weather system that pounded California with moisture was the main reason for its diversion. A planned stop there is also possible, which may have been a result of routing closer to other contingency ports, such as Pearl Harbor, but it is farther from Guam to San Diego than it is to Washington.

We will continue to keep you up to date on what will be a long and challenging process of getting *Connecticut* back into an operational state once again. Hopefully, we will find out much more about her journey home once she arrives in Bremerton.

Down Three

by Bob "Dex" Armstrong

e've all been there. The third week of providing ping time to folks who obviously couldn't find a hippo in the trunk of a VW. There comes a point when you want the blind bastards to find you so bad, you'd bang on some metal object until the deaf sonarmen will hear you...find you...and tell you to go home. At this point, the wild bunch in the alley start trying to figure out how the midwatch can turn on the red eye during the 2300 snorkel charge.

Three weeks down is the point at which you begin to think teaching a cockroach to tap dance is distinctly possible.

Grown men find themselves actually arguing over what sounds were made by the animals on Old MacDonald's Farm. People start devoting time to questions like, "Who the hell was Hogan and why did they name the after half of the after battery outboard passageway after the sonuvabitch?" Then you find out that guys like Sid Harrison and RamJet were actually related to Hogan.

Last week, these guys had disclosed their linear bloodline descendency resulting from a little known illicit relationship between Joan of Arc and the Emperor of Japan. (We will not speak of Week Four—the point at which you begin to believe Sid Harrison wrote musical stuff under the name of Beethoven, and that RamJet truly holds all the patents on fresh air.) In Week Three, women looking like Eleanor Roosevelt start to become desirable. Books titled *Trucker's Babe* transform into classic literature. And movies entitled *Riders of the High Chapparal* become theatrical achievements. Great epics, even.

And beginning Week Three, you start to smell yourself.

By Week Three, you have held the Great Master Acey-Deucey Tournament, determined the Planetary Grand Champion, and stage-mounted the customary ceremony. But there's no milk. Bread's stale. Gamey dungarees...

The after battery is beginning to look like homeless people have moved in. All that's missing are the wobbly grocery carts and cracked refrigerator crates.

In the middle of chow, you have to pry two shipmates apart because one has made the innocent observation that it's damned near impossible to find a virgin in Rhode Island. During the process, we learn that the brother of a nun in a convent just outside Newport is an ET onboard.

Now the motor burns out on the alley fan.

The Exec decides the crew is ripe for a practical factors lecture on the care and cleaning of the .45 caliber pistol. Crew votes overwhelmingly for the "Sailors Beware" film—the VD flick that's always a big crowd pleaser in the After Battery. It's the one where everyone viewing swears it was made in his own hometown, and that he had dated most of the cast. The Exec casts his vote for the .45 film though—so he wins. We watched a .45 get totally nekkit down to her operating slide and mainspring. What an exciting experience! Nobody recognizes anything from his hometown.

Three weeks out we get Radio Moscow on RBO. The lovely ladies of the Mikarovgod tractor factories enjoyed a record-breaking week and turned out eighty-five tractors. Boy, were we impressed! A lad from Nebraska with intimate knowledge of both tractors and Nebraska girls explains how important it is to select for your life partner a girl who has "tractor ass"—meaning her butt crease and cheek size conform precisely to a John Deere or International Harvester hard-sculpted tractor seat. Most of us had never heard of tractor ass, an important but little known fact we would have missed had we gone to Penn State or Columbia University instead of SUBLANT U.

The third week out, two men get into heated exchange over what day it is. An engineman confesses he has no idea what year it is, only that it's somewhere within his 3rd enlistment.

A messcook cuts his hand on the sharp edge of an opened canned ham. A mob collects to watch Doc Rohr sew him up. This serves as entertainment for the better part of forty-five minutes. The surgical thread is purple, so the crew tries to talk Doc into embroidering little violets in with the stitches for a great future sea story. Doc tells onlookers to go to hell and find some other way to waste their time.

Someone steals the officers' *Playboy* magazine out of the forward room head. Nothing happens. The crew had hoped some Scotland Yard criminal investigation would be launched. But no one cares. No fun in it. The skin magazine is returned.

We suddenly pick up WCKY out of Cincinnati, Ohio. Some man is selling baby chicks and marigold seeds. There's a song by Mother Maybell and June Carter and guys are transfixed. We lose signal; the shit-kickers are heartbroken now.

(concluded on page 24)



A Few Photos from the February 19th General Meeting at Taco Surf Restaurant in Surfside, CA...

Our first in-person base meeting in quite some time was held last month. Participants chowed down on Mex cuisine and got reacquainted after too long a time. These pics don't depict everyone in attendance, but do represent a lot of familiar but much-missed faces. Recognize these fine folks? (Thanks, Sam!)



New Members

We proudly welcome aboard our newest base shipmates:

Charles R. Hinman

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

Dr. Darin Steven Detwiler

(E5-MM2SS; served 1986-1994) Wife: Gennette Zimmer 40 Cedar Walk, Unit 2414 Long Beach, CA 90802-7927 cell: 425-232-5743 ddetwiler680@gmail.com Qualified in 1989 on the USS William H. Bates (SSN-680)

Robert "Bob" John Frazier

EMC-SS E-7 CPO; served '78-'94) 4278 Hill Avenue Fullerton, CA 92833-3430 cell: 714-931-8654 Uboatman@gmail.com Qualified in 1981 on the USS Tautog (SSN-639)—'80-'85 USS Rich. B. Russell (SSN-687) '89-'92

Robert "Mike" Cailor (returning) (EM1-SS E6; served '64-'71) Wife: Rebecca 2514 Elm St., Seffner, FL 33584-5812 cell: 813-585-7615 rmcgfish@gmail.com Qualified in 1968 on the USS Guardfish (SSN-612)

Edward "Ed" Elliot Kushins

(LT-03SS; served '68-'79) Wife: Mary Hamilton 45 16th Street Hermosa Beach, CA 90254-3402 phone: 310-345-3562 edkushins@gmail.com Qualified on the USS *Flasher* (SSN-613)—'69-'71, LTJG.

Ramon O. Aguilar (returning) (E5-ET Radio Div.; 1996-2001) 22736 Jody Lane Carson, CA 90745-3603 cell: 562-303-0866 octiviano89@gmail.com Qualified in 1998 on the USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN-705)



Mark Maynard in late 2021.

More on Our Late Shipmate Mark Maynard

Mark J. Maynard was born on August 24, 1924 in Sumner, Washington. He attended high school in Olympia. After observing sailors on liberty when he was very young, "joining the Navy" was one of his first goals. In 1936, two S-boat submarines paid a visit to Port Olympia and the idea of becoming a submariner was formed.

When Pearl Harbor was attacked, Mark was too young to enlist and it was October 6, 1942 before he could be sworn in for a six-year active-duty Navy enlistment. It turned into a thirty-year career. He volunteered for

submarine duty and graduated Sub School in New London, Connecticut in June of 1943. He was assigned first to a Relief Crew and then to USS *Sturgeon* (SS-187) for two successful patrols. Afterwards, in August of 1944, the boat returned to San Francisco for overhaul.

During that shore billet, Mark married Janice Lowdermilk in September of 1944. (They now have two children, Janice and Loren Steven; and two grandsons, Mike and John.) Mark was transferred to the *Marlin* and later to the *Cobbler*. He also served aboard *Cusk*, *Capitaine*, and *Sperry*, and in 1958 went on to Nuclear Power School. Afterward, Mark served in *Sargo* (SSN-583) during her cruise under the North Pole ice in February, 1960.

Mark was officer-commissioned in 1962 and assigned to various submarine repair billets. He retired on November 1, 1972, as a Lieutenant, United States Navy, Retired. Mark joined the Los Angeles Area Chapter of the U.S. Sub Vets of World War II, serving in various offices and as Chapter President from 1978-1979. He later also joined the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.'s Los Angeles-Pasadena Chapter.

Mark J. Maynard had graduated from California State University, Long Beach, in 1976 with a degree in Business Administration. He eventually became a Real Estate Broker, and subsequently the proprietor of a Honeybaked Ham outlet. Mark had had designs on ultimately becoming the "last living U.S. submarine veteran of World War II." We're so sorry he didn't achieve that goal…but still can't get over all he *did* achieve!

(I'm grateful to Bo Bolton and his daughter Sue for providing this fascinating obituary about Mark for me. I also thank Marilyn for the information immediately below.—ed.)

Latest update on Services for Mark and Jan as we went to press:

Mark and Janice Maynard Memorial: Saturday, April 23, 2022 at the U.S. Submarine Veterans World War II National Submarine Memorial-West Time of Memorial - TBA • Reception 10 minutes away in Huntington Harbor Map & Driving directions will be provided at that time...

Michael Varalyai Also Departs on Eternal Patrol

Michael Varalyai received orders for his Eternal Patrol 2/11/2022. Mike qualified in submarines in 1954 on the USS *Runner* (SS-476, '53-'54). He also served aboard USS *Grampus* (SS-523, '54-'55) and USS *Redfin* (SS/SSR/AGSS-272, '55).

Mike was a Sonarman 3rd Class and an E4-Petty Officer 3rd Class.

Mike joined USSVI and the Los Angeles-Pasadena Base on October 1, 1998, and was a 24-year member and a Life Member of both organizations. It's always so sad to see a shipmate depart, and Mike will be much missed by all who knew him.



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

(75-year members noted with *)
Gerard A. Krudwig2022
Gregory M. Paulson 2022
Michael J. Swanson2022
Ralph J. Hansen2021
Robert F. Schive, Sr2021
Larry D. Long2021
G. Judson "Jud" Scott, Jr2021
Edward E. Kushins2020
Bruce Evan Neighbors 2020
David H. Vanderveen 2019
Philip J. Jaskoviak2019
Dennis Bott2018
James A. Burnett2018
Robert "Mike" Cailor 2018
Robert Miller2018
John A. Anderson2017
Roger C. Dunham, MD2017
Richard McPherson 2017
Harry "Bill" Moak2017
Louis A. Myerson2017
Elliot Rada2017
Ronald G. Wagner2017
Dennis J. Walsh2017
Michael Kish2016
Gary Wheaton 2016
Lawrence R. Butler2015
Samuel T. Higa2015
Harry P. Ross2015
Stephen C. Rowe2015
Charles H. Senior2015
Larry E. Smith2015
Sam Aboulafia2014

(concluded next page)



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

January 15:	Monthly Meeting via Zoom Conference
February 19:	Monthly Meeting at Taco Surf Restaurant
March 19	Monthly Meeting at Bunker 33 Picnic Site
April 16	Monthly Meeting at Bunker 33 Picnic Site Call for Memorial Day Prep Volunteers
May 21	Field Day at the Memorial Site - 0900 Monthly Meeting Nominating Committee Appointed Call for participants in the Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade
May 28?	Field Day at the Memorial Site - 0900
May 30	Memorial Day Service - 1100 Submarine Memorial, West
June 18	Monthly Meeting - Annual "Steakfest" Call for nominations for 2023 Base Officers
July 4	115th Annual Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade
July 16	LeRoy Stone Memorial Picnic Bunker 33, Seal Beach Weapons Station
August 20	Monthly Meeting - "Hawaii" Theme 2023 Base Officer Candidates Announced
September 17	ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Election of Officers
October 15	Monthly Meeting Annual Officer Installation Luncheon
November 19	Monthly Meeting - Thanksgiving Theme
December 10	Annual Christmas Luncheon at the Los Alamitos Golf Course

(<u>Holland Club Roster, continued</u>)
David Palagyi2014
Earl Thomas Peratt, Jr2014
David D. Semrau, DDS 2014
Ray Tracy Teare2014
Milton Harry Boudov2013
Kenneth Jon Dorn2013
M. Mark Hoffer2013
Michael P. Klein2013
Ronald L. Levenson2013
Edward L. Arnold2012
T. Michael Bircumshaw2012
Raymond Cheesebrough . 2012
Bobby O. Mahaffey2012
John V. Mahan2012
Lee Melody2012
Clyde Matthew Turner2012
George R. Walrath2012
John L. Weisenberger 2012
Edward A. Barwick2011
Joseph W. Koch, Jr2011
Stephen D. Diumenti 2009
David Whittlesey2009
Dennis A. Yure2009
Armen Bagdasarian2008
Paul A. Riggs2008
Rex L. Shields2008
John L. Von Ulmen2008
Francis R. Traser2006
Ronald K. Thompson2004
Michael Varalyai2004
Robert L. Conboy2003
James Rogers2003
John E. Savela, Jr2003
Ben Van Devender2002
Berry S. Yolken2002
James E. Carter 1999
William F. Long1999
Herbert J. "Bo" Bolton 1998
Kenneth E. Chunn1998
*Royal Harrison, Jr1995
*Sterling F. Higgins 1995
*Robert Clair Koplin1995
*William J. Dillon1993
*Harold Staggs1992



E-Board Meeting Minutes of Feb. 19, 2022

The Los Angeles-Pasadena Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., Executive Board Meeting was conducted on the morning of Saturday, February 19, 2022.

In attendance:

- Dave Vanderveen, Base Commander
- Ed Barwick, Base Vice Commander
- · Bill Moak, Secretary
- Mike Swanson, Treasurer
- Paul Riggs, Memorial Chairman
- Herb "Bo" Bolton, Director
- · Chuck Senior, Director
- · Ray Teare, Base COB
- Ken Dorn, Member

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the meeting at the Taco Surf Restaurant in Surfside, CA to order at 11:05 hours with a quorum present. Minutes of the January Zoom meeting were reviewed. There were no revisions requested. Chuck Senior moved to accept the Minutes; this was seconded by Ken Dorn and approved by voice vote.

Traffic had held up Mike Swanson and Bill Moak, so Dave adjusted the agenda to update the board on funeral service plans by the Maynard and the Varalyai families. Services will be delayed until April for Jan and Mark Maynard, to be followed by a service at the WWII Submarine Memorial - West to be planned with L.A.-Pasadena Base sometime in the Spring. The Varalyai family has delayed Mike's service to be held jointly with Bea, hopefully at a *much* later date.

Dave updated the board on plans for the Western Region Roundup to be held in Reno from April 25-29. The planning committee has offered to display a base's logo on correspondence and on "swag bags" if the base will donate \$50. Ken Dorn offered to donate the money himself, but decided he will donate the \$50 to L.A.-Pasadena Base so our Treasurer can then send a donation from the base to the committee.

Memorial Report:

Paul Riggs has requested to be relieved as Memorial Director so he can direct more time to his wife's care at home. Dave will request volunteers during the General Meeting. If an individual does not step up, we may need to establish a committee to handle it similar to the plan established when Marilyn Senior sought relief earlier as Membership Coordinator.

Treasurer's Report:

Mike Swanson arrived and presented the Treasurer's Report (filed separately for the Board and for publication in the newsletter to General Membership). There were no questions or revisions requested, so Ed Barwick moved to accept, it was seconded by Ray Teare and approved by voice vote.

Charities Committee Report:

The Charities Committee reported its recommendation for donation by L.A.-Pasadena Base for 2022, and included a synopsis of the selection criteria (unchanged from prior years). The charities selected to receive donations this year are:

(concluded on next page)

One of the U.S. **Navy's Most Powerful Weapons Makes a Rare** Appearance in Guam

(Reproduced from the CNN website; first published 1/17/22) by Brad Lendon, CNN



The U.S. Navy ballistic-missile submarine USS Nevada (SSBN-733) arrived at Naval Base Guam, January. 15, '22.

Hong Kong (CNN)—One of the most powerful weapons in the U.S. Navy's arsenal made a rare port call in Guam over the weekend, sending a message to allies and foes amid increasing tensions in the Indo-Pacific, analysts said.

The USS Nevada, an Ohioclass nuclear-powered submarine carrying 20 Trident ballistic missiles and dozens of nuclear warheads, pulled into the Navy base in the U.S. Pacific Island territory on Saturday. It's the first visit of a ballistic missile submarine—often referred to as a "boomer"—to Guam since 2016, and only the second announced visit since the 1980s.

"The port visit strengthens cooperation between the United States and allies in the region, demonstrating U.S. capability, flexibility, readiness, and continuing commitment to Indo-Pacific regional security and stability," a U.S. Navy statement said.

Movements of the fourteen (continued on next page)

E-Board Meeting Minutes...

(concluded from previous page)

- Battleship *Iowa* Military and Veterans' Programs \$575
- Honor Flight Southland Program \$575
- USSVI Charities \$575

Total \$1,725 out of \$1,830 was allocated to the program. The remaining \$105 will be retained by the base for future use. Ray Teare moved to approve the recommendation; it was seconded by Ken Dorn, then approved by voice vote.

Additionally, the Board chose to donate a total of \$90 to the Boat Sponsorship program which provides copies of American Submariner. Recipients are to be USS Pasadena (SSN-752), USS Hyman G. Rickover (SSN-795), and USS Growler Museum (SSG-577). Mike Swanson moved to approve the recommendation; it was seconded by Chuck Senior and approved by voice vote.

Base Access Plans:

Dave outlined his recent success in working with NWSSB to enable our base to meet on the Weapons Station and to secure access passes for our members. Briefly, we will hold meetings at Bunker 33's Picnic Area through the warm months this year, with sponsorship by the Station's Facilities Administrator so we can be issued access passes. Instructions will be sent by e-mail in early March about how to retrieve a pass. Be aware that two forms of government issued identification must be shown. (A drivers license, Social Security card, military retiree card, passport, etc.) When staffing issues on the Station have been solved, our Base and the Weapons Station will establish documentation to allow us to meet in Building 16 before the wet months of the year. With that agreement in place, Station Security will conduct remaining background checks so we won't require sponsorship to get access passes. We will continue using Building 16 for perhaps two years while Building 10 is being renovated into conference and meeting space, at which time we will make arrangements to have space in there to meet, store our Memorial tools/supplies, and to post our memorabilia. In the short-term, we must remove all our gear from Building 6. The Facilities Administrator is checking Station property for possible storage space. If that cannot be secured, Dave and Mike Swanson will secure commercial storage space, then Dave will request commitment by members to do the removal work and will arrange for sponsored access passes.

Good of the Order:

Paul Riggs noted that the Lions Club of Seal Beach has offered to refurbish the plaques on the monuments at WWII Submarine Memorial - West. They have done similar work successfully on the Seal Beach pier, so Paul will have them examine our plaques to be sure they can do the work, then we will seek concurrence from the Weapons Station for them to do the job.

Ken Dorn offered to donate to USSVI's Charitable Foundation specifically for the Memorial at the Weapons Station. He was provided with the information to accomplish that.

With no further business, Chuck Senior moved to adjourn the Board meeting. Mike Swanson seconded the motion and it was approved by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Vanderveen

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

Boomer at Guam

(continued from previous page)

boomers in the U.S. Navy's fleet are usually closely guarded secrets. Nuclear power means the vessels can operate submerged for months at a time, their endurance limited only by the supplies needed to sustain their crews of more than 150 sailors.

The Navy says *Ohio*-class submarines stay an average of 77 of days at sea before spending about a month in port for maintenance and replenishment.

It's rare for one to even be photographed outside their home ports of Bangor, Washington, and Kings Bay, Georgia. The secrecy surrounding the ballistic missile submarines makes them the "most important survivable leg of the nuclear triad," which also includes silo-based ballistic missiles on the U.S. mainland and nuclear-capable bombers like the B-2 and B-52.

But with tensions brewing between the U.S. and China over the status of the self-ruled island of Taiwan, and as North Korea ramps up missile tests, Washington can make a statement with its ballistic missile submarines that neither Beijing nor Pyongyang can, according to the analysts.

"It sends a message—intended or not: we can park 100-odd nuclear warheads on your doorstep and you won't even know it or be able to do much about it. And the reverse isn't true and won't be for a good while," said Thomas Shugart, a former

(continued on next page)



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

FOX Traffic: Bulletins from USSVI—Regional and National

Shipmates and Ladies,

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

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

Date: January 31, 2022

Subject: Newsletter for February, 2022 Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO

House Approves Bill to Automatically Enroll Vets in VA Health Care https://bit.ly/3oiDPqH

Drastic Cuts to Recruiting, Moves and New Ship Delays Are Inevitable Without a Budget, Navy Says https://bit.ly/3rjlQm0

2022 USAA Military Pay Deposit Dates https://bit.ly/3AOcXnA

Your 2022 State Veteran Benefits https://bit.ly/3AN8WzS

New Mexico Considers Sending the Guard to Staff Schools as Governors Face Growing Labor Crisis https://bit.ly/3gfar07

Thousands of Ineligible Medical Providers Are Enrolled in the VA's Community Care Program https://bit.ly/3giq32V

VA Tests New Automated System that Could Speed Up Claims Decisions https://bit.ly/3ud1kW6

Exposed to Environmental Toxins in the Military? A House Committee Wants to Hear from You https://bit.ly/3IX8GB2

Few Details from Pentagon, VA After White House Unveils Suicide Prevention Plan Focused on Gun Safety https://bit.ly/3L5Z0Gy

Anticipating Boom of Aging Veterans, VA to Expand Care, Services for the Elderly https://bit.ly/3Hp0sBA

Navy SEALs Stop Training in State Parks as Locals Sue Over 'War Games' https://bit.ly/3ggtgjD

Boomer at Guam

(continued from previous page)

U.S. Navy submarine captain and now an analyst at the Center for a New American Security.

North Korea's ballistic submarine program is in its infancy, and China's estimated fleet of six ballistic missile submarines is dwarfed by the U.S. Navy's.

And China's ballistic missile subs don't have the capabilities of the U.S. boomers, according to a 2021 analysis by experts at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

China's Type 094 ballistic missile subs are two times louder than the U.S. subs, and therefore more easily detected, and carry fewer missiles and warheads, CSIS analysts wrote in August.

Besides the political signaling, the presence of the USS *Nevada* in the region presents another opportunity, explained Alessio Patalano, professor of war and strategy at King's College in London.

"The presence of this type of boat—especially in training and exercises—adds an important opportunity to learn how to hunt those of other actors in the region," Patalano said.

"The DPRK (North Korea) is pursuing the development of such a type of a platform, and China already fields them. Honing in the skills to track them is as important as deploying them as strategic deterrent," he said.

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USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

The Navy's New Train Car Has All the Firepower and Tech You Need for Nuclear Security https://bit.ly/3ITSekZ

Navy Boots 23 Sailors for Refusing Vaccines as Leaders Push Rule Changes for Next Stage of Pandemic

https://bit.ly/3HmhbW2

What Happens to Tricare When You Become Eligible for Medicare? https://bit.ly/3HltyBP

13 Often Forgotten-About Military Family Benefits https://bit.ly/34tHOcT

Pentagon Pumps the Brakes on Civilian COVID Vaccine Mandate https://bit.ly/3L4nijQ

Roughly 100 New Mexico Guardsmeno Fill In as Substitute Teachers https://bit.ly/3ANeESk

Two Army Vets Awarded \$110 Million in 3M Earplug Lawsuit https://bit.ly/34r1hez

GI Bill Users Must Now Verify Their School Attendance to Get Paid https://bit.ly/3rkwF7k

John Dudas USSVI Veterans Service Officer john.dudas.ssn571@gmail.com 928-636-9004

Shipmates and Ladies.

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

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

Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Subject: 2022 National Officer Nominations Submitted by: John E Markiewicz, IPNC

2022 is an Election Year. The Following National Officer Positions and Requirements for Office Are Available:

SECOND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

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

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

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

Boomer at Guam

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The last time a U.S. Navy boomer visited Guam was in 2016, when the USS *Pennsylvania* stopped there.

Analysts said tensions across the Indo-Pacific have significantly increased since that time, and more such military displays are likely from Washington in the current environment.

"This deployment reminds us that the nuclear order at sea in the (Indo-Pacific) matters, and whilst often outside wider public conversation, we are likely to see more of it in the development of regional strategic balance," Patalano said.



The US Navy ballistic missile submarine USS Nevada arrives at Naval Base Guam.



PRIDE RUNS DEEP





USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

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

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

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

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

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

Shipmates and Ladies,

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

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

Date: February 2, 2022

Subject: 2022 National Awards Bulletin

Submitted by: Harold W (Bill) Scott, National Awards Chair

2022 National Awards Bulletin:

We have many individual Members and Bases who contribute untold hours working to help their shipmates, advance our organization and follow the directives of our Purpose/Creed. Unfortunately, too many of these efforts and accomplishments go unnoticed because they take place at the local level and remain under National's radar.

Please don't procrastinate. Read the individual award requirements and submission procedures described in the 2022 USSVI Awards Manual and take the painless steps to recognize these Shipmates, Bases and Newsletters.

The Manual can be found at the USSVI.org website on the Awards and Manuals Tabs.

2022 Awards Submission Timeline:

<u>FEBRUARY 1</u>: Award Nomination period opens and all USSVI Members in good standing submit Award nominations to the National Awards Chair.

<u>APRIL 30</u>: All Award nominations (with exception of Newsletter Award) must be received by the National Awards Chair at the close of business on this date.

<u>MAY 15</u>: All Newsletter Award nominations must be received by the National Awards Chair at the close of business on this date.

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MAY 17: The National Awards Chair submits nominations for the respective Award to the Committee Chair for voting and on of recipients.

<u>JUNE 15</u>: All Award SelCommittee Chairs report selections to the National Awards Chair.

Please submit questions and nominations to the National Awards Chairman, Harold W (Bill) Scott II, at hscottss242@gmail.com or mail to the following address:

National Awards Program Chair Harold W (Bill) Scott II 901 Busleigh Castle Way Pflugerville, TX 78660-7474

Honored to Serve, Harold W (Bill) Scott II, STSCS(SS) USN Ret. USSVI National Awards Chair COB, USSVI Central Texas Base CTB Newsletter Editor 512-826-8876

Shipmates and Ladies,

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

Dave

From: Rocky Rockers < rockymt1ss@gmail.com>

Date: Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022

Subject: Fwd: Second Call for 2022 Nominations for National & Regional Officers

Ahoy, DC's: Please pass this info. along to the Bases. We still need shipmates to serve.

Regards,

Vic Vanhorn, Wrd

Regional Directors please distribute to your District Commanders for further distribution to their Bases.

As a reminder, all nominations must be received prior to March 1st, 2022.

The following nominations have been received as of this date.:

NC - BILL ANDREA

NSV -

NJV - STEVE BELL

NS-

NT – PAUL HISER

ENRD - LES ALTSCHULER

ESRD – KEN NICHOLS

CRD - TOM WILLIAMS

WRD – PETE JUHOS

Nominations remain open for all positions until March 1st, 2022.

John E. Markiewicz, IPNC

(continued from previous page)

USSVI Western Region Roundup A Gathering of Submariners

April 25 - 29, 2022 Silver Legacy Casino & Resort Reno, Nevada



Register Online - www.wrroundup.com

Shipmates,

The USSVI Western Region Roundup which is scheduled for April 25–29, 2022 at the Silver Legacy Resort and Casino in Reno, Nevada has added two new events: A Submarine Movie Night and a Western Line Dancing Instruction Session. Our online registration and payment system makes short work of the process. Register online today: https://wrroundup.com/?page_id=1323

We are also looking for bases and individuals to help us by sponsoring the event. For a \$50 Sponsor Fee, we feature your base logo on our website and print it on the swag bags. http://wrroundup.com/?page_id=1949

As always, the goal of the Roundup is to provide a way for all submariners to gather for their mutual benefit and enjoyment. We look forward to seeing you there!

Western Region Roundup Committee

Shipmates and Ladies,

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

Dave

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

Date: February 9, 2022

Subject: USSVCF Living Legacy Fund

Submitted by: Ken Earls

Shipmates,

Everyone is proud of their submarine experience. Some of us credit that experience as a highlight of our entire life.

You can memorialize that experience by creating your own Living Legacy with the US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation.

Go to Legacy Fund - United States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc. (ussvcf.org) to download the Living Legacy information sheet along with the Pledge Form.

Feel free to contact Ken Earls if you have specific questions.

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Thank you, Ken Earls Executive Director & Treasurer Charitable Foundation, USSVI kenearls.ss@gmail.com

Shipmates and Ladies,

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

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

Date: February 10, 2022

Subject: Buffalo National Convention Registration info.

Submitted by: Fred Marazita

Shipmates,

Registration for this year's National Convention in Buffalo is now online. This year's registration will be a little different than in the past.

You may go directly to the National Convention website, ussviconvention.org/2022/ and click on the convention registration button. Instead of going to a .pdf as in the past, you will be taken to a new page that will allow you to complete your reservation online and pay by credit card, PayPal or check.

The "landing page" will give you information concerning the convention and COVID and identification protocols for entry into Canada. Please be sure to read this information.

There are two simple pages upon which to enter your information. On the first page are choices for the events/dinners/tours you want to go to and the number who will be attending. On the second page, goes all your personal information, including emergency contact and entrée selection for the awards banquet, plus the size for your souvenir T-shirt (if you selected that option).

You will then have the option of paying with a credit card now or by mailing in a check.

You will be able to immediately print out your itinerary and it will also be sent directly to your email address.

Fred "Fritz" Marazita Buffalo Base Commander

Shipmates and Ladies,

Bea Varalyai advised me that Mike passed away on Friday the 11th. He had recently suffered a third heart attack and was under hospice care in Maui.

She said there will not be a formal service. Their children (now adults) will hold a joint service for their parents after Bea's death. Here's hoping that will be a long time away.

I will ask her permission to circulate her contact information for those who want to send condolences to the family, and will forward it when I have it.

Sailor, Rest Your Oar,

Dave Vanderveen

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Shipmates and Ladies,

Here's some information about navigating the USSVI site—for those who have difficulty getting to it. Dave

From: Rocky Rockers < rockymt1ss@gmail.com>

Date: Sunday, Feb. 13, 2022 Subject: Convention Registration

Forwarded from: USSVI WESTERN DISTRICT-1 <ussviwesterndistrict1@gmail.com>

I use Firefox to access both the USSVI website and Tools with no difficulty. However, if you are having problems with the National USSVI website—making it difficult for you to go to our convention page—you can go directly to the convention website at: ussviconvention.org/2022/

Or use the link below:

Tickettailor.com/events/buffalonavalpark/640488

Still having trouble? Delete Firefox and re-download.

Please get this to your members.

Dennis Ottley USSVI Western District-1 Commander USSVI 2023 National Convention Chair

Drug Smugglers' Plan to Buy Russian 'Foxtrot'...



USS Barb Pioneers Sub-Launched "Missiles" in WW2

(continued from page 1)



The problem was that a single gun was unlikely to inflict much damage in a short amount of time, and the submarines were highly vulnerable to air, sea and land attack as long as they remained on the surface.

In 1942, the German Kriegsmarine actually tested submarine rocket artillery that could be fired underwater, but gave up on the idea due to its impracticality. Rumors that Germany had modified their subs to launch V-2 ballistic missiles at the United States led to a vigorous and bloody submarine hunt in the closing weeks of World War II.

The U.S. Navy, meanwhile, considered a much cruder solution: taking one of the Mark 51 rocket launchers it used on some of its LSM landing ships and strapping it to the main deck of a submarine. The twelve spin-stabilized 127-millimeter rockets mounted on the launch rack could only be fired while surfaced, and had a maximum range of three miles. However, a full volley could be ripple fired in the space of five seconds. The fixed launcher was unable to traverse, so the entire submarine had to

turn to adjust the aim laterally.

Capt. Eugene Fluckey of the *Gato*-class submarine USS *Barb* (SS-220) volunteered his boat to try out the experimental rocket launcher in 1945. At the time, the Navy was actually testing the weapon's viability as an anti-kamikaze weapon, but Fluckey managed to cajole the R&D staff into releasing the Mark 51 in time for his patrol, making *Barb* the only rocket-launching submarine of the U.S. Navy in the conflict.

The *Barb*, which displaced 2,400 tons submerged, was one of the top-scoring Allied submarines of World War II. By the most conservative count, she sank seventeen ships totaling ninety-seven thousand tons of shipping. Other tallies are considerably higher.

In January 1945, on his fourth patrol as commander of the *Barb*, Fluckey snuck his boat into the shallow waters off of Namakwan Harbor off the coast of China and torpedoed six ships before hightailing away, an action that earned him the Medal of Honor. Despite this exploit, Fluckey was concerned it would be difficult to find much enemy shipping on his fifth and last war patrol, so he was keen on being well-equipped to attack targets on land.

Barb set sail from her base at Midway on June 8 loaded with one hundred rockets. She arrived off the Japanese home islands on June 20. At 2:30 am on June 22, she surfaced off of the town of Shari on northeastern Hokkaido Island, unleashing a volley of twelve rockets into the slumbering community. She then sailed northward to the coast of Southern Sakhalin Island, known at the time as the Japanese prefecture of Karafuto. (All of Sakhalin is presently administered by Russia.)

Over the following month, *Barb* expended sixty-eight rockets on Shikuka, Shoritori and Kashiho, mostly firing late at night at near-maximum range. She also used her four-inch deck gun to bombard the towns of Kaihyo To, Shibertori and Chiri. The attacks targeted civilian industrial sites, including a cannery, seal rookery, lumber yard, paper factory and several small shipyards, as well as a military radio, radar and lighthouse station. When Japanese seaplanes began hunting the sub during the day, Fluckey retaliated with a volley of rockets aimed at the Shikuka military airfield. *Barb*'s guns also destroyed more than three dozen civilian sampans, while her homing torpedoes took out local trawlers, tugboats and a few large merchant ships.

Barb's most famous exploit did not involve those weapons. Observing trains passing along the Japanese coastline, Captain Fluckey hatched a scheme to dispatch a landing party to blow up one of the trains by burying *Barb*'s fifty-five pound scuttling charge (essentially a self-destruct device) under the tracks. Rather than using a timer, the explosives would be jury-rigged only to blow when the pressure of a passing train completed the

(concluded on page 23)

USS Barb Pioneers Sub-Launched "Missiles" in WW2

(concluded from page 22)

circuit to trip the trigger, a trick Fluckey likened to a childhood walnut-cracking prank. A landing party of eight was selected on the basis of their unmarried status and membership in the Boy Scouts. (Fluckey believed the scouts would have better pathfinding skills.)

At midnight on July 23, *Barb* slipped up to within a kilometer of the shore, and a landing party commanded by Lt. William Walke paddled quietly to the beach. While three men took up guard positions—they encountered a sleeping Japanese guard in a watchtower, whom they left unharmed—the other five buried the demolition charge and managed not blow themselves up jury-rigging the detonation circuit. They were furiously rowing back to the *Barb* when a second train passed.

Fluckey described what happened next in his autobiography *Thunder Below!*: "The engine's boilers blew, wreckage flew two hundred feet in the air in a flash of flame and smoke, cars piled up and rolled off the track in a writhing, twisting mass of wreckage."

All sixteen train cars derailed, killing 150 passengers. The *Barb*'s crew added a train to the tally of enemy ships sunk on their battle flag. Her landing party had just performed what would be the only U.S. ground operation on the Japanese home island soil during all of World War II. *Barb* continued her rampage along the Sakhalin coastline through July 26 before returning safely home to her base at Midway Island on August 2.

The *Barb*'s raids on the Japanese coast—and even those performed by Allied battleships—were premised on the Japanese military's inability, by 1945, to effectively defend the homeisland coastlines, which included a lack of coastal-defense guns. Many of the casualties of the *Barb*'s attacks were likely civilians in largely undefended towns. On the other hand, targeting civilian merchant ships was a standard practice undertaken by all





sides in World War II.

While the rockets *Barb* employed appear to have been effective, it's not clear whether they were superior to having another deck gun. But within a decade of *Barb*'s last mission, new rocket-based technologies in the form of guided cruise and ballistic missiles drastically reduced the relevance of big guns on warships or coastal defenses. These new weapons could be launched by a submerged submarine a long distance from shore, safe

from immediate retaliation.

Thus *Barb*'s last rocket-laden patrol presaged the future of undersea warfare. Submarines, such as the enormous *Ohio*-class ballistic missile submarine—which also has a variant carrying 154 land-attack cruise missiles—can pose a threat even to a nation with a well-defended coastline. The *Barb*'s monthlong seaside rampage will remain a unique incident and legacy in submarine development history.

Sébastien Roblin holds a master's degree in conflict resolution from Georgetown University and served as a university instructor for the Peace Corps in China. He has also worked in education, editing and refugee resettlement in France and the United States. He currently writes on security and military history for War Is Boring. This article first appeared in 2018.

Down Three

(concluded from page 9)

Cook serves canned mystery meat. We've been out too long; we know that tuna noodles will show up any day, then Sloppy Joe over rice. The hydraulic oil film floating on the coffee seems to be getting more colors—a veritable rainbow.

No mail. Couldn't somebody arrange an Orphan Annie drop? Isn't there one sonuvabitch in VP45 who could get ahold of our gahdam mail and drop it to us? All naval aviators are lazy bastards. Discussion on same ensues....

Enginemen are making fresh water. Jeezus, it gets hot. After battery fan is still busted. Exterior noise level monitors are picking up internal noise: turns out to be a can of peaches rolling back and forth in the waterway. Trash is building up; need a one-way surface dump.

A movie is shown backwards. It's not funny. Someone returns to the subject of the scarcity of virgins in Rhode

Island. Nobody takes the bait. Discussion now turns to how come you never know who's winning stock car races, but any Annapolis man in the forward battery can tell you who won the gahdam Army/Navy game five minutes after the fourth quarter? Is it true: did Fireball Roberts get killed?

What day is it? Some quartermaster must know...

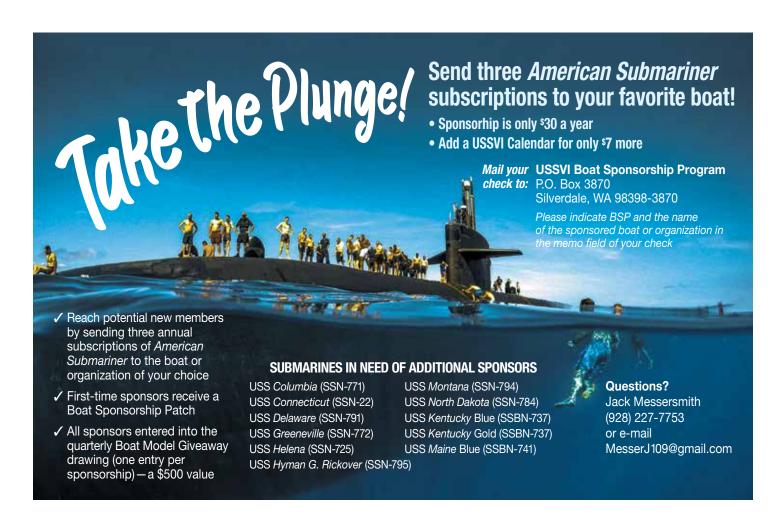
We've been down three weeks.

When's FINEX?

Keep a zero bubble . . .

Dex.





Shipmates,

This morning I met with the Facilities Administrator at the Weapons Station and learned our next steps.

I immediately asked when Building 6 demolition would begin, because we are near the 90-day deadline set by Captain Sherman to remove our gear from it. She told me the plan has changed because Base Security's quarters must undergo a seismic refit and B-6 will be used by them to store their gear until new quarters are completed, then it will be demolished. We must vacate B-6 over the coming weeks and there will be no space on the Station where we can store our equipment/memorabilia. However, after Security's new quarters are complete, their current building will be renovated into conference and meeting space and we will be eligible to establish meeting and storage space there. The time frame is two-to-three years from now.

She described the Station's staff shortage and how it delayed a solution for our access problem through the past year. The shortage will continue for awhile and it impacts what we are able to use on the Station. She then showed me Building



16, which has been recommended for Subvets' use. It is a combination gymnasium and separate lounge area for use by all groups on the Station. The lounge area is good-sized, has a kitchen, but has limited seating for a large group and NO storage for our gear. The restrooms are accessed through the gym, which is not staffed on weekends due to MWR staff shortage. She told me we would have to use the restrooms next to the picnic area (Bunker 33).

I then suggested that we just use the picnic area at Bunker 33 for our meetings through the dry months while MWR's staffing problem is solved, then we can establish a usage agreement for Building 16 before the wet months begin. That will provide a meeting space on the Station we can use until a new facility becomes available for us in Security's current quarters. She agreed, so she will communicate that plan through the command levels on the Station. She and I will handle the documentation required at each step so we and the Navy comply with Federal administrative requirements.

Next steps:

- 1- We must secure commercial storage for our gear and memorabilia, similar to what we did in 2014 when B-6 was renovated. This may be required for two-to-three years until permanent space is available.
- 2- Security will perform background checks on the Subvets who will remove material from B-6. Then, they will check all others so we can get onto the Station for regular meetings at Bunker 33.
- 3- She will confirm with the Command that L.A.-Pasadena will not be charged a use fee for the outdoor facility at Bunker 33, and that alcoholic beverages will be permitted in the picnic area.
- 4- Several of us will need to go onto the Station to remove our material from B-6 and place it in commercial storage.
- 5- I will notify her formally when we have vacated B-6.

This has been a long and frustrating experience and we are still not through it. However, we have a solution now for in-person meetings on the Station through the summer and autumn, with a longer-term temporary solution near year's end. Eventually, the Navy will be able to put us into a newly renovated space for meetings, storage of our Memorial-related gear, and space for our memorabilia. From a business perspective, we also have a clear understanding of documentation required to keep us and the Navy in compliance with Federal requirements related to Non-Federal Entities on military installations.

More to come...

Dave Vanderveen



PURPOSE OF L.A.-PASADENA BASE CHARITY DONATIONS:

To support local area charity organizations working to help needy or distinguished veterans, and their families, who have served their country in one of the branches of the U.S. military.

BACKGROUND:

In 2020 the Board of Directors of the LA/PAS Base agreed to designate 20% of base funds on hand—minus normal operating funds and excluding the flower fund—to selected charities. The board also agreed that in future years said donation amount would be 10% of the budget balance.

With that in mind, the Charities Committee has met to review what the total amount would be and how to distribute that amount for this year. After reviewing the budget, it was decided the amount would be \$1,830. The Committee then considered several organizations for donation which were submitted by various base members.

PROPSAL:

As a result of these meetings, the Committee recommends the organizations and amounts of donation listed below:

TOTAL AMOUNT OF DONATIONS	\$1,815
• USSVI Charities	\$575
• Honor Flight Southland Program	\$575
• Battleship <i>Iowa</i> – Military and Veterans Programs	\$575
• USS Hyman G. Rickover (SSN-795)	
• USS Growler Museum (SSG-577)	
• USS Pasadena (SSN-752)	
• USSVI Boat Sponsorship Program; the following boats at \$30 each	

More on Our Late Shipmate Mike Varalyai

MICHAEL JULIUS VARALYAI



Rate/Rank SO3(SS)

Service Branch United States Navy March 1951–1955

Specialty

Sonar Operator Radio Repairman

Born

March 17, 1932

Eternal Patrol

February 11, 2022

Duty Stations

USS Runner (SS-275) USS Grampus (SS-523) USS Redfin (SSR-272)

Awards

National Defense Service Medal Navy Good Conduct Medal Shipmates and Ladies,

Here is USSVI's Eternal Patrol communication for Mike Varalyai. Please note that his family has chosen to hold services at an undetermined time much later. We are in communication with them so we can help and also pass along information to Mike's shipmates.

Dave Vanderveen

From: USSVI National Office <cto@

ussvi.org>

Date: February 21, 2022 Subject: Eternal Patrol Notice

USSVI just received notification that the member listed below has departed on Eternal Patrol:

Date Passed: 2/11/2022 Date Born: 3/17/1932 Base: L.A.-Pasadena

Name: Varalyai, Michael Address: 2713 Akalani Loop City, ST, Zip: Makawao, HI

96768-8409

Phone: 808-298-0455

E-mail: grammabea12@aol.com

Next of Kin: Bea Relationship: Spouse

Address: To Live with Daughter Veronica in HI

Joined USSVI: 1998

Boats Served on: SS-476, SS-523, SS-272

Bio: Qualified in submarines on the USS $\it Runner~(SS-476)$ in 1954 and

was a SO3(SS) when he left the Navy.

His record is now posted online in the Eternal Patrol file on the USSVI website—accessible using your USSVI Online Tools. As you or the base learn more details about this shipmate, you can update his bio and obit fields.

Note to Members:

To obtain and print out a Eternal Patrol Certificate, visit:

https://bit.ly/35nrUBp

...and click on the left-side button: USSVI Members > then Eternal Patrol > then Certificates. There are three variations of Eternal Patrol certificates to fit your need. The certificate can be filled out and printed right now at the time of need. You can type the name of the deceased and the date of passing prior to printing out the certificate as well.





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

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

They've seen and done it all, and each has her own story to tell.

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

The all-new 2022 USSVI Submarine Calendar

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Email: NSK.USSVI@yahoo.com Phone: (925) 679-1744 Quantity discounts available. Discover the astounding achievements of a dozen World War II American submarines.



(SS.20), possible report reads almost like a movie script. The emowed USS Barb (SS.20) more than the script is the emowed USS Barb (stathess), as the script in the emowed USS Barb (see the emowed USS Barb (

plant to n the trust, and blow one sky high? Easy peasy. So, under cover of darkness this band of many does exactly this, mry rigging an ingressionally simple press plants as a deconated. In the train takes mry rigging an ingressionally simple press plants are proposed to the train the state of the stat





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



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