

**Blacky Blackman
Departs on Eternal Patrol**
(Please See Page 24)

THE PERISCOPE

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

Volume 17, Number 11 • November 2021



PRIDE RUNS DEEP



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

What's Inside

Commander's Message	2
General Meeting Minutes	3
Tolling of the Boats	5
Dex Armstrong	11
Chapter News	13
Upcoming Events Calendar	14
E-Board Meeting Minutes	15
Sub Deal Sours France	16
USSVI Update Bulletins	17
Mail Buoy	24
Xmas Luncheon Sign-Up	26

Editor's Corner

After hearing from our friend Charles Hinman of the *Bowfin* Museum about some errors, I recently undertook to rewrite and update *all* the Tolling of the Boat stories printed here monthly throughout the year. Some are now more accurate, others more detailed, but each has somehow been improved a bit over its former self. If you haven't read the remarkable stories of our lost boats recently, you might refresh your memory starting with this month's entries on page 5.—Jeff

Divers Finally Find the Eerie Wreck of a Cold War-Era Submarine

(Reproduced from the dogtime.com website)
by Andrew Akako



USS Stickleback (SS-415). (NavSource Online: Submarine Photo Archive.)

The magnificent wreck of the USS *Stickleback* flickers on the screen. This is the moment submarine expert Tim Taylor has been waiting for. He focuses his full attention on the monitor. It shows flashes of the *Stickleback*, which is slowly decaying 11,000 feet beneath the ocean waves. And then the whole thing comes into view. The prize Taylor and his team have been searching for for years. He is the first person to see the *Stickleback* since it went missing—in 1958.

60 Years Gone

That means that the sub was missing for six entire decades. Taylor and his team found the lost sub using cutting-edge technology including remotely operated vehicles, high-tech

(continued on page 6)



(YouTube/ABC 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
golfsurf46@aol.com

TREASURER - WEPS

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

CHIEF OF THE BOAT - COB

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

MEMORIAL DIRECTOR

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

IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER

Bill Moak

L.A.-PASADENA BASE WEBSITE

www.socalsubvets.org

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

Newsletter Editor

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

From the Wardroom...



Dave Vanderveen,
Base Commander

Shipmates and Ladies,

Is this Autumn weather we feel in Southern California? I can hardly tell, but I do enjoy living here where the weather is consistently pleasant. Now, if we could just get some rain here and a LOT of snow in the Sierra Nevada mountains!

Rocky Rockers, our recently elected (for the third separate time) Commander for Western Region District 6 conducted the oath of installation for our 2022 Base officers during last Saturday's meeting. For those who were not able to attend, it was a good opportunity to discuss our health and effectiveness as a USSVI Base. Our membership is strong with several prospective members in the "pipeline," though we have recently lost two shipmates to Eternal Patrol. L.A.-Pasadena's financial situation is strong and stable as can be seen in the Treasurer's Report elsewhere in this issue. Additionally, we have continued to conduct our "business" as a service organization and caretaker of the World War II Submarine Memorial-West. We can be proud of the fact that we have found ways through video conferencing, teleconferencing and occasional in-person opportunities to meet our commitments and responsibilities as a Base. Bravo Zulu, Shipmates!

Our Base Calendar is light in the last months of the year, but the New Year will bring an important effort by the committee which develops our Charitable Donations budget. One of the steps they perform is to gather information about candidates for our Base's donations. If you have a suggestion about an organization we should consider for a donation, please send it along to Ed Barwick, Chairman of that committee. Candidates would be involved in service to veterans and/or their families.

The specter of COVID continues to diminish through vaccination, development of immunity and continued responsible protection of our health. As a result, we have committed to our Annual Holiday Gathering (Christmas Luncheon). It will be on Saturday, December 18th at the Eagle's Nest in the banquet area of the Navy Golf Course, Los Alamitos. You will find a sign-up sheet in your e-mail and also in this issue of *The Periscope*. (See page 26—ed.) As always, your own judgement about your health and assessment of the risk to your health will be your most important considerations when deciding to attend the luncheon or not. I do look forward to seeing and spending time with you folks again!

Happy November!

Dave Vanderveen

Commander

Los Angeles-Pasadena Base



Minutes of Oct. 16, 2021 General Meeting on Zoom

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the Zoom General Meeting of the L.A.-Pasadena Base to order at 1105 hours.

Dave began the meeting with the reading of the USSVI Purpose, followed by a request for a moment of silence for our departed shipmates. Dave then mentioned the recent losses of members Dennis Parr and Hughie Blackwell.

Treasurer's Report:

Mike Swanson provided monetary details for the base account as of Oct. 16, 2021. Specific numbers have been approved by and are reported within the E-Board Meeting Minutes.

Memorial Report:

Dave reported that the condition of the site is good. Paul will arrange for the trimming of the hedge that surrounds the Memorial site. This is generally done twice a year. Paul and Ed will also work together on the addition of Gold and Silver Dolphins to an undetermined location, but one visible to visitors at the site. Options include the back of the street sign along Seal Beach Boulevard, or the creation of a pedestal with a plaque describing the meaning of the site.

Membership Update:

Marilyn Senior reported 106 current members, with four or five potential members in the pipeline. Dave reported our base as being healthy in terms of both membership and our ability to perform our desired functions effectively.

Installation of Officers:

Dave then introduced our District Six Commander Rocky Rockers. Rocky explained his recent election to this role as being a "retread," since he had previously served in this capacity—most recently, just prior to Willie Williamson—and that in all he has served in the position eight years. Rocky then proceeded to swear-in the L.A.-Pasadena Base officers for 2022.

Those officers are: Base Commander - Dave Vanderveen; Vice Commander - Ed Barwick; Base Secretary - Bill Moak; Base Treasurer - Mike Swanson; COB - Ray Teare; Herb Bolton - Director. This swearing-in, being administered over Zoom, resulted in something of a cacophony of oral responses, but we got the job done.

Christmas Luncheon:

Plans are moving forward to hold our luncheon at the Eagles Nest on Saturday, December 18. This will be our first opportunity to gather face-to-face in many months. Everyone is encouraged to attend, giving consideration to health issues, of course. Mandate protocols will be in place and likely required to be observed. Dave intends to again present brief bios of our WWII members at the luncheon. Details and sign-in sheets will be e-mailed and also available in this issue of *The Periscope* (see page 26—ed.).

Good of the Order:

Rocky appealed to any Korean War vets to sign up for Honor Flight(s). They are now accepting Korean War vets for these flights. Rocky joined the San Diego flight group, and Dave mentioned there are other groups in the LAX and Bay areas.

Dave welcomed Ron Jones back into the fold, and Ron thanked both Dave and Marilyn for continually checking on him. Dave then asked recent returnee Ron to describe his roles and duty stations while serving. Ron described quite an interesting path and multiple locations during his eight years. Dave also had Gary Wheaton and Gary Wing do the same. All three shared quite interesting tales. Join us for our next Zoom meeting and find out more about our members.

With no further business, Bill made a motion to adjourn; Ed seconded and we adjourned at 1132 hrs. via voice vote approval by all present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Moak

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI



Oct. General Zoom Meeting Sailing List

Ed Barwick
Herb "Bo" Bolton
Sam Higa
Ron Jones
Bill Moak
Jeff Porteous
Ray "Rocky" Rockers
Mike Swanson
Ray Teare
Dave Vanderveen
Ron Wagner
Dennis Walsh
Gary Wheaton
Gary Wing



**Nov. Mtg. Remains
Zoom Video Conference**

Nov. Meeting

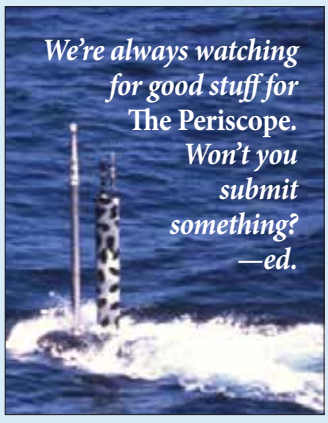
Date: Nov. 20, 2021

Again this month, our usual base meeting will be conducted via Zoom. With Building 6 still off limits to us, no new on-base venue yet established, and mobile connectivity remaining problematic, this will likely be our meeting status for awhile yet. Sure hope to see your face among the crowd!

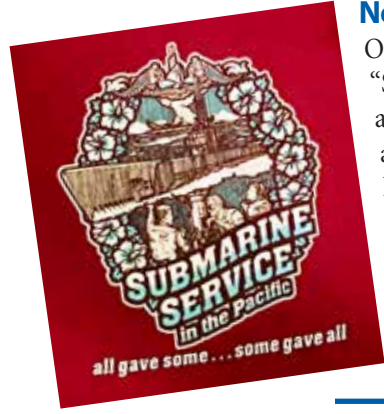
Nov. Birthdays

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

- Bill Long 11/1
- Rex Shields..... 11/1
- Gary Lee Wing..... 11/4
- Wally Walrath..... 11/7
- Bobby Mahaffey 11/8
- Dick Traser 11/11
- Jud Scott 11/16
- Ed Arnold 11/21
- Matt Turner 11/22
- Cheese Cheesebrough.. 11/22
- Larry Butler 11/29
- Ray Teare..... 11/30



Ship's Store

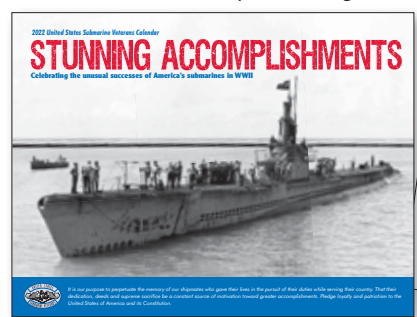


New Reduced Price on T-Shirts!

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

2022 Calendars Now Available!

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



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



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



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



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

LOS ANGELES - PASADENA BASE

2021 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 (x10!) • Jack & Marlene Mahan • Mike Varalyia (x2!)
Ed Kushins • Sally Moran (x2!) • Skip Loveless • Harold Staggs



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

NOVEMBER TOLLING OF THE BOATS



USS ALBACORE (SS-218)



USS GROWLER (SS-215)

USS ALBACORE (SS-218)

Lost on November 7, 1944 off northern Hokkaido. A recipient of two Presidential Unit Citations, *Albacore* had been on her eleventh war patrol when she struck a mine while running submerged. A nearby Japanese patrol craft had detected her and bore witness to her loss as she entered the minefield. Eighty-five officers and crew perished.

USS GROWLER (SS-215)

Lost on November 8, 1944 when she went down in the South China Sea. *Growler* had been awarded two Navy Unit Commendations and was on her twelfth war patrol when sunk while attacking a convoy—likely the victim of either a depth charge attack or the circular run of one of her own torpedoes. Eighty-six men went down with the boat.

USS SCAMP (SS-277)

Probably lost on November 9, 1944 near Tokyo Bay. Evidence indicates that during her eighth war patrol *Scamp* had been trailing oil—perhaps from mine damage—which had helped Japanese coastal defense vessels locate and destroy her with depth charges. Her full complement of eighty-three never came home.

USS CORVINA (SS-226)

Lost on November 16, 1943 when sunk just south of Truk during her first war patrol. *Corvina* is suspected of having been destroyed by torpedoes from a Japanese submarine. All eighty-two officers and men were lost in the attack.

USS SCULPIN (SS-191)

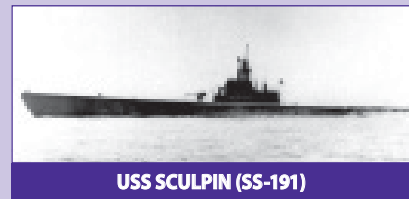
Lost on November 19, 1943 also near Truk. Severely damaged by depth charges after attacking an enemy convoy, *Sculpin* continued her fight on the surface. Once the captain was killed, the crew was forced to abandon ship and scuttle the boat. Forty-one men were taken prisoner, only twenty-one of whom survived the war. Among those choosing not to abandon ship, Captain John Cromwell, aboard as a potential wolfpack commander, rode *Sculpin* to the bottom, fearing that vital information he was carrying might be compromised under torture. For this, Cromwell was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Forty-three men were lost when *Sculpin* went down.



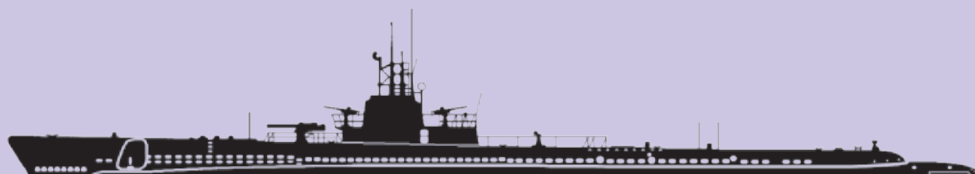
USS SCAMP (SS-277)



USS CORVINA (SS-226)



USS SCULPIN (SS-191)



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

Divers Finally Find *Stickleback*

(continued from page 1)

sonar, and imaging equipment. The *Stickleback* had actually split into two parts. And as Taylor has pointed out, the submarine's crewmen were incredibly lucky to have survived. Usually, when a sub sinks, the crew is trapped aboard.

USS *Stickleback*



(Wikimedia Commons photo.)

That fact alone is enough to understand why Taylor had been so obsessed with tracking the sub down. But it's not the only reason why the USS *Stickleback* is special. Its Navy designation was SS-415, one of the 120 *Balao*-class vessels built during WWII. Yet only the *Stickleback* would go on to play such a storied part in history.

Balao Craftsmanship



(NavSource Online: Submarine Photo Archive.)

Given the craftsmanship that went into the *Balao* subs, it's perhaps not surprising that they were classics of warfare. The first of this class—USS *Balao* (Tang was actually completed earlier—ed.)—was launched in October of 1942. It massively improved on the previous *Gato* class of submarines. And yes, all the *Balaos* were named after species of fish. But that didn't stop

the *Stickleback* from having a massive impact.

Deep Divers



(Naval History and Heritage Command photo.)

What made the *Stickleback* so effective? The *Balao* subs had thick, high-tensile steel alloy hulls so they could dive to depths of 400 feet. And actually, the submarines' hulls wouldn't fail until they reached 900 feet. That's a pretty important number when you understand how the *Stickleback* ended up in its watery grave.

Because when you think about *Stickleback*'s construction, it's almost inconceivable she would sink. She started out in March, 1944 at the Mare Island Navy Yard in Vallejo, California. Like all of her *Balao* kin, she was a diesel-electric vessel powered by four ten-cylinder engines and four high-speed electric motors. The diesel engines drove the twin propellers. Impressive, right?

The submarine also measured a touch under 312 feet from stem to stern and was just over 27 feet across the beam at her widest point. Traveling underwater, *Stickleback* could attain a maximum speed of nearly nine knots. On the surface, she could cruise at a top speed of a little over 20 knots. So she was powerful and fast—a deadly combination. But that's not all.

'Unsinkable' Sub



(Twitter/SeaWaves Magazine photo.)

(continued on page 7)

Divers Finally Find *Stickleback*

(continued from page 6)

Stickleback had a range of 11,000 nautical miles at a steady speed of ten knots. She could also stay out on patrol for up to 75 days. The sub could even stay underwater for up to 48 hours cruising at a gentle two knots. And the vessel was designed for a crew of ten officers and 71 seamen. Seriously, it's a miracle that anyone could sink this ship!

She was loaded with weaponry too. The submarine had ten 21-inch torpedo launching tubes, with six of those set toward *Stickleback's* prow and the remainder at the boat's stern. The sub also had weapons for use on the surface in defense or attack. There was one five-inch deck gun plus two cannons, a Bofors 40mm and an Oerlikon 20mm. These guns came in handy as well.

First Skipper



(USN/USNI photo.)

Stickleback launched on the first day of 1945 and then formally became part of the U.S. Navy in late March. Work on the sub's final fitting out was completed toward the end of May. Her first skipper was Commander Lawrence G. Bernard—but even he couldn't save the *Stickleback* from her fate.

Heading for Pearl Harbor



(U.S. Navy photo.)

In late June of 1945, *Stickleback* set sail for Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, arriving there after a six-day journey. There was now time

for some more training runs before the submarine was ordered to depart for Apra Harbor on the Pacific island of Guam. The Americans had seized the island from the Japanese after bitter fighting in August, 1944.

Japan's Surrender



(Army Signal Corps/Wikimedia Commons photo.)

Stickleback next embarked from Apra on August 6, 1945, for her first wartime cruise in the Sea of Japan. However, the Americans dropped the world's first atomic bomb on Hiroshima that very day, with a second detonated over Nagasaki just three days later. Japanese resistance collapsed, the country surrendered, and a ceasefire was declared on August 15. This also impacted the *Stickleback*.

On the day of the surrender, *Stickleback* received orders to cease attacks against enemy vessels but to remain in her patrol area. So the submarine and her men never did see any combat action in WWII. However, she was involved in one incident of note arising from hostilities in the now-finished war.

Still in the Sea of Japan six days after the surrender, *Stickleback's* lookout spotted two bamboo rafts drifting in the water. Aboard were nineteen men, and how glad they must have been to spot this submarine. Although they may have wondered what treatment they could expect at the hands of American sailors.

The mariners aboard the rafts were in fact the survivors from a Japanese cargo ship, the *Teihoku Maru*. An American sub, another *Balao*-class vessel, USS *Jallao*, had torpedoed and sunk the freighter on August 11 just four days before the ceasefire. The nineteen survivors who'd made it onto makeshift rafts were the lucky ones. Twenty-seven of their fellow crewmembers had lost their lives in the sinking.

Stickleback rescued the merchant sailors, giving them food and medical attention. After an 18-hour journey, the shipwrecked mariners were set back on their rafts just off the Korean island of Ulleungdo, where they would be able to land safely. Having

(continued on page 8)

Divers Finally Find *Stickleback*

(continued from page 7)

delivered her human cargo, *Stickleback* now headed back to Guam and then on to San Francisco. And then her ultimate fate.

Arriving in San Francisco on September 9, 1945, *Stickleback* now participated in victory celebrations and then cruised north up the West Coast as far as British Columbia, Canada. Next came a trip to Pearl Harbor in early 1946 followed by the submarine's decommissioning in June at the Mare Island Yard in California. The crew couldn't know of the troubles ahead....

Her decommissioning was far from the end of *Stickleback's* story. Five years later, in June, 1950, hostilities broke out on the Korean peninsula. The Korean War was a Cold War-era conflict between the U.S. and her United Nations allies on one side versus Communist North Korea, backed by China and the Soviets, on the other. This bitterly fought war was far from "cold," and it brought *Stickleback* out of the Naval Reserve and back into service.

Radical Overhaul



(Naval History and Heritage Command photo.)

The Navy recommissioned *Stickleback* in September of 1951 with a new skipper, Lieutenant Commander Roy J. Robinson, at the helm. The sub now took part in training off the coast of California until she was decommissioned again in November, 1952. This time, she was withdrawn from service because she was due for a radical overhaul. But it would be too little too late.

Stickleback was converted under the U.S. Navy's Greater Underwater Propulsion Power Program, known as GUPPY. This was a concerted effort to update WWII-era submarines to bring them to a higher standard for operation in the 1950s. *Stickleback's* conversion would stretch over ten months and include the fitting of a snorkel plus an improved battery and sonar system.

Her upgrade complete, in January, 1954, *Stickleback* sailed to the city of Yokosuka in Japan, her new homeport. The Cold War trundled on. And the submarine would now be involved in reconnaissance missions, keeping an eye on Soviet shipping. This would prove to be her downfall.

Spying on the Soviets



(NavSource Online: Submarine Photo Archive photo.)

Stickleback embarked on her first Cold War mission in late March, 1954, on a cruise that would last four weeks. She sailed from the Pacific through the Tsugaru Strait into waters between Japan and the Korean Peninsula. Her task was essentially surveillance. She recorded and photographed various Soviet vessels in the waters off Korea. Things were looking good.

Early Success



(L.A. Examiner/USC Libraries/Corbis via Getty Images photo.)

(continued on page 9)

Divers Finally Find *Stickleback*

(continued from page 8)

In fact, things looked good for the next couple of missions. She successfully surveyed Soviet shipping in the Bering Sea between the coasts of Russia and Alaska. And she also completed further patrolling before her crew was allowed a welcome six days of rest and recreation. If the rest of the Cold War had carried on like this, things might've turned out quite differently.

By the end of her fourth mission on October 10, *Stickleback* had recorded the movements of 119 Soviet vessels. Not bad! Of course, all of this sneaking around was not exactly what the *Stickleback* had originally been built to do. But the Cold War was a very different animal from WWII. And the *Stickleback* would find out how different on her fifth and final mission.

“Routine Exercise”



(L.A. Examiner/USC Libraries/Corbis via Getty Images photo.)

This came in June, 1957, when she embarked from Pearl Harbor and sailed to waters off the coast of Siberia. By July 26, the sub found herself back in Hawaii. The next significant moment in *Stickleback*'s story came in May, 1958, when the submarine was involved in what should have been a routine training exercise—yet one that turned out to be anything but.

On May 28, 1958, *Stickleback* was participating in antisubmarine warfare training with the U.S. Navy destroyer, USS *Silverstein*. The exercise took place around the Hawaiian Islands and involved a third vessel, a torpedo retriever. The training consisted of the submarine making dummy torpedo runs at the destroyer, and it continued into the following day.

Losing Propulsion



(Twitter/Jerome OLLIER photo.)

During the afternoon of that second day, *Stickleback* made one more simulated torpedo attack on *Silverstein*. At this point the vessels were some 20 miles off the island of Oahu. At the end of the run, the submarine submerged as planned, but then something went badly wrong. *Stickleback* lost propulsion and went into an uncontrolled dive, rapidly reaching a depth of 800 feet.

To put it mildly, an 800 foot depth was not advised. Remember, *Balao*-class submarines were rated only for a test depth of 400 feet. And their collapse depth was 900 feet. Once the submarine was that far beneath the waves, her hull would be subject to such high pressures that it would collapse like an empty soda can clenched in a vise.

Fortunately for the crew, *Stickleback* was able to blow her emergency ballast tanks, quickly ascending to the surface and to safety once more. The submarine and her crew were okay for the moment, but her danger was actually far from over: *Stickleback* had surfaced just 600 feet from the onrushing prow of the *Silverstein*—and directly in her path.

Critical Collision



(U.S. Navy/Wikimedia Commons photo.)

U.S. Navy destroyers cannot perform sudden emergency stops, certainly not within 600 feet. Although *Silverstein*'s crew did what they could, reversing the engines and setting the rudder full left, the destroyer ploughed into the submarine's port side, inflicting a large gash in her hull. Remarkably, the collision did not cause any casualties, but clearly the submarine was badly damaged.

Blowing the Ballast Tanks

Trainee submariner Pat Barron was aboard *Stickleback* when this accident occurred and he remembered the experience in an interview published on the SubmarineSailor.com website in 2002. Barron said, “I remember it was right before noon meal. We were submerged and we lost power and took a tremendous down angle and started going down. Emergency lights went on and shortly

(concluded on page 10)

Divers Finally Find *Stickleback*

(concluded from page 9)



(L.A. Examiner/USC Libraries/Corbis via Getty Images photo.)

after that I heard them start blowing main ballast tanks.”

Barron continued, “Once we got the down angle off and our descent stopped, the next thing that happened was we started going to the surface in a hurry.” And the then-young seaman recalled what happened next: “Then we hit the surface, and within like about 30 seconds we were rammed by the *Silverstein* on the port side... There was a hell of a CRASH and shock from the collision. It shoved the boat to starboard and knocked all of us down.”

Barron also recalled, “You know how they say your life passes before your eyes at times like this? Well, it happened to me. I can remember to this day picturing my girlfriend from high school.” And the next thing the submariner heard was the call to “Abandon ship.” Those are two words every seaman hopes he’ll never hear.

Fortunately for *Stickleback*’s crew, a salvage vessel, *USS Greenlet*, soon appeared on the scene, and the submariners were able to transfer aboard her without mishap. But *Stickleback* herself was not so lucky. Despite repeated intensive efforts by various vessels in the vicinity, she could not be spared her fate.

Barron recalled the moment when the submarine was lost: “The boat continued to sink lower and lower by the bow until water started lapping up the front of the sail. That’s when the skipper finally left the boat and came aboard the *Greenlet*. The boat continued to sink lower and lower and finally she went over and the stern went up with the screws, rudder, and stern planes sticking out—and then she was gone.”

So *USS Stickleback* sank around 11,000 feet deep—that’s about

two miles down—close to twenty miles off the coast of Oahu. But the precise location of the submarine’s wreck would remain a mystery for more than six decades. That’s when Tim Taylor and the researchers from the Lost 52 Project turned their attention to hunting for the site.

Lost 52

Taylor’s Lost 52 Project is dedicated to locating the wrecks of lost submarines and takes its name from the fact that 52 disappeared during World War II. However, Taylor and his team also extend their mission to hunt for submarines lost during the Cold War. It was during this conflict between America, her allies, and the Soviet Union that *USS Stickleback* went down beneath the waves.

Filling Out History

According to the Lost 52 Project’s website, Taylor’s team wants to “provide the fullest possible documentation and accounting of these locations for our missing WWII Navy sailors, their families and the nation.” The project collates comprehensive data records for each vessel that they discover with an eye to creating a valuable education resource.

Speaking to the Atlas Obscura website in March, 2020, Dr. Bob Neyland of the Naval History and Heritage Command highlighted the significance of this and other finds. He said, “Each



(YouTube/Ocean Outreach photo.)

discovery...provides an opportunity to remember and honor the service of our sailors and marines.” And the Lost 52 Project has had the honor of finding a total of six lost U.S. submarines from WWII and the Cold War in the last nine years.

It Was Home

by Bob “Dex” Armstrong

“Hey below!”

“Down ladder!”

“Down ladder!”

“Down ladder!”

Followed by three thumps in the after battery passageway heralding the return of three non-rated fools from a night of post-payday wanton revelry and self-destruction.

“Well, ladies, you missed the fun tonight. There was a floor show at Bell’s. Some guy off the *Redfin* rearranged some IC Electrician’s nose cartilage and we all got a nipple peek off Dixie for a three-buck tip. Great night in the big city, gentlemen. Another wonderful day in Arleigh Burke’s Sea-going Funhouse.”

“Knock it off! Jeezus, you gahdam kids get wrapped around two damn beers and you start auditioning for the Obnoxious Loudmouth of the Month.”

“Oh, listen to Mr. Grumpy, the sour-faced sailor. Hello, Mr. Grumpy—what did you do tonight? Did you do your homework for your Chief’s exam, like a good Mr. Grumpy the Lifer, Den Mother and Keeper of Mature Thoughts and Wisdom?”

“Gawd, deliver the U.S. Navy from nineteen-year-old two-beer bandit jerks. Little frigging idiots who come smoke-stackin’ down the pier at midnight, wakin’ up working sailors.”

“Working sailors? Jack, c’mon, you’re talking to guys that know you. Guys who know that you had your last productive day linehandling for Noah. Hell, you should wear a mask and point a gun at the guy who gives you your Navy paycheck, the way you rob the gahdam Navy.”

“Hey, when you silly children decide to quit waking people up and making asses of yourselves, make sure your gahdam shoes aren’t sitting in the passageway.”

“Yes, mother.”

“Night-night, mother dear.”

“Night-night sweetheart.”

“Hey, Stuke! Wanna make a breakout and have some steak and eggs?”

“Sounds like a helluva good idea.”

The boats had “open galley,” which meant any man could fix himself chow at times he would not interfere with a cook’s preparation of a meal. The big catch was, if you didn’t leave the galley as clean as you found it, the cook would kill you and drape your guts over an operating vent handle in the crew’s mess as a warning.

“Evening, Mr. Schilling.”

“You have the duty, sir?”

“You guessed it. And let me guess... You gentlemen have been ashore spreading good will to the patrons and fair maidens at Bell’s, the establishment of refined companionship, like the good naval ambassadors you are. Am I right?”

“Mr. Schilling... Sir, can you still be one of those goodwill Navy ambassador whatchamacallits if you peed on Hampton Boulevard and your running mate heaved up three boiled eggs and six Slim-Jims on the *Cubera*’s tanktops?”

“No, I don’t think so... I think at some point you go from naval goodwill ambassador to E-3 idiots, with drunk in tow.”

“You want steak and eggs, sir?”

“No, gentlemen, ’think I’ll pass. Goin’ forward and turn in. We’re gonna be bustin’ out linehandlers about 0530... ’Night, lads.”

“’Night, sir.”

“’Night, sir.”

“’Night, Mr. Schilling.”

“Hey—you know, Mr. Schilling’s an okay guy.”

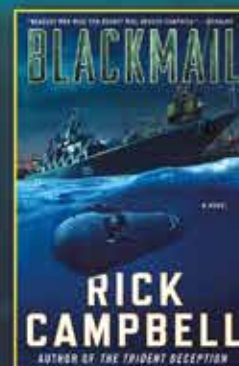
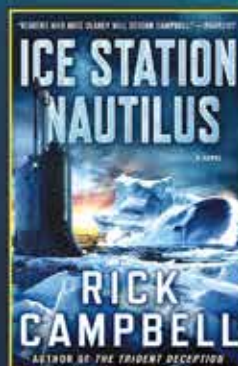
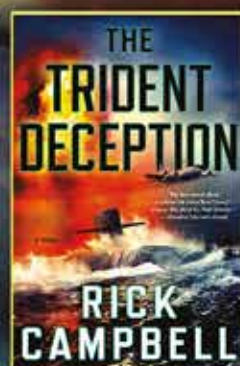
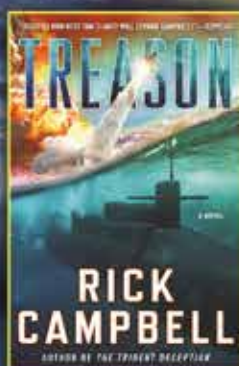
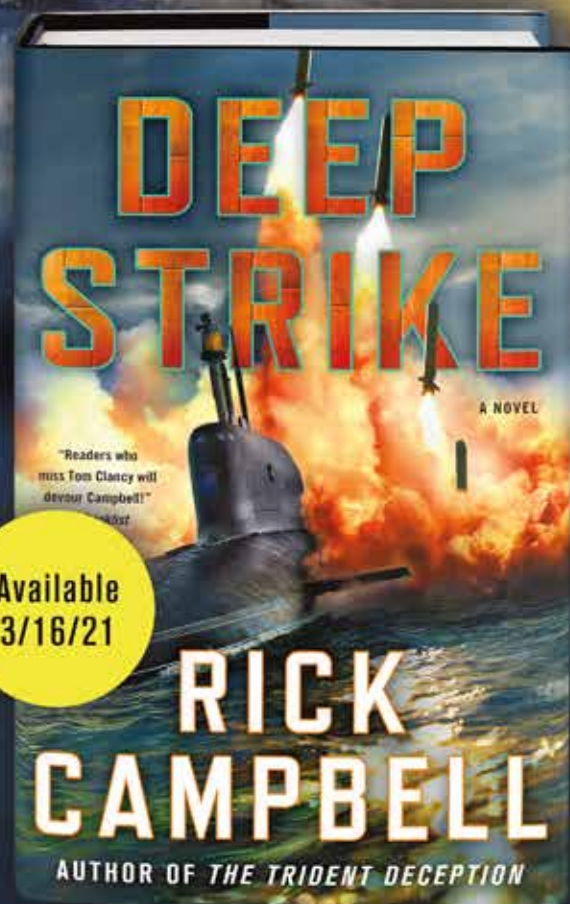
“That’s because he was a raghat. I heard he left neckerchiefs in places the heavyweight champ wouldn’t go... And had to carry a gahdam ball bat to beat goodlookin’ wimmin off him.”

(concluded on page 23)

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

DEEP STRIKE

NOW IN PAPERBACK!



Available
3/16/21

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

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

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

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

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

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

New Members

We proudly welcome aboard our newest base shipmates:

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)

Gary Lee Wing
(E6-STSS1SS Sonar; 1985-1994;
Air Force Reserve thru 2012)
Fiancé: Megan
612 Cooper Drive
Placentia, CA 92870-2001
cell: 707-373-8277
beniciahawk@gmail.com
Qualified in 1988 on the USS
Richard B. Russell (SSN-687)



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

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

*Sailor,
Rest
Your
Oar...*



DENNIS PARR

August 31, 1943 - September 5, 2021

Dennis Parr, 78 of Montclair, CA, passed away on September 5th after a short battle with lung cancer.

Dennis was born August 31, 1943, to Walter and Eloise Parr (Barter) in Spokane, Washington. He graduated from Shadle Park High School in 1961. Dennis enrolled in the United States Navy in 1960 and was deployed in 1961 on submarines. He had the opportunity to serve on the following boats: USS *SKIPJACK*, USS *SABALO*, USS *CARONERO*, and USS *STERLET*. Qualified in submarines on the USS *SABALO* in 1964 and was an EM2 when he left the Navy and was an E5. He served from 1960-1966.

Dennis is survived by his wife Donna Parr (Stice) of 47 years. His 2 daughters Christine Milliken-Parr of Tennessee and Kelly Straws (Parr) of California. Dennis had 3 stepchildren by marriage, Glen Smith of Texas, Tracy Gregory (Smith) of Utah, and Alison Smith of California. As well as 3 grandchildren Nicole Kinkead, Ash Straws, Madison Lewis, and proceeded in death by Grace Dupuis Wilson. Dennis had 2 great-granddaughters Calleigh and Melanie. His sister Bonnie Acton (Parr) and her husband Thomas Acton. He is also survived by several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A memorial service will be held at the Riverside National Cemetery on October 5, 2021 at 1:30 PM.

Riverside National Cemetery
22495 Van Buren Blvd.
Riverside, CA 92518
Phone: 951-653-8417



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

*(75-year members noted with *)*

- Larry D. Long2021
 - G. Judson “Jud” Scott, Jr....2021
 - Edward E. Kushins 2020
 - Bruce Evan Neighbors2020
 - David H. Vanderveen 2019
 - Philip J. Jaskoviak.....2019
 - Dennis Bott2018
 - James A. Burnett.....2018
 - Robert “Mike” Cailor2018
 - Robert Miller2018
 - John A. Anderson2017
 - Roger C. Dunham, MD....2017
 - Richard McPherson 2017
 - Harry “Bill” Moak2017
 - Louis A. Myerson 2017
 - Elliot Rada2017
 - Ronald G. Wagner2017
 - Dennis J. Walsh.....2017
 - Michael Kish.....2016
 - Gary Wheaton2016
 - Lawrence R. Butler2015
 - Samuel T. Higa2015
 - Harry P. Ross 2015
 - Stephen C. Rowe2015
 - Charles H. Senior2015
 - Larry E. Smith2015
 - Sam Aboulafia2014
 - David Palagyi.....2014
 - Earl Thomas Peratt, Jr.2014
 - David D. Semrau, DDS2014
 - Ray Tracy Teare.....2014
 - Milton Harry Boudov2013
- (concluded next page)*



**Los Angeles-Pasadena Base
2021 Calendar of Upcoming Events**

- January 16: Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
- February 20: Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
- March 20 Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
- April 17 Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
- May 15 Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
Nominating Committee Appointed
Call for participants in the Huntington
Beach 4th of July Parade (?) TBD
- May 31 Private Memorial Day Service - 0930
(L.A.-Pasadena Base Subvets Only -
Public Service Disallowed by Weapons Station)
Submarine Memorial, West
- June 19 Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
~~Call for nominations for 2022 Base Officers~~
- July 4 ~~Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade~~
Base Participation Cancelled
- July 17 LeRoy Stone Memorial Picnic... Now to
take place at the Memorial Site
- August 21 Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
2022 Base Officer Candidates Requested
- September 18 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING via Zoom
Election of Officers
- October 16 Monthly Meeting via Zoom
Annual Officer Installation
- November 20 Monthly Meeting via Zoom**
- December 18 Annual Christmas Luncheon
at the Los Alamitos Golf Course**

(Holland Club Roster, continued)

Kenneth Jon Dorn..... 2013
 M. Mark Hoffer 2013
 Michael P. Klein..... 2013
 Ronald L. Levenson..... 2013
 Edward L. Arnold..... 2012
 T. Michael Bircumshaw.... 2012
 Raymond Cheesebrough . 2012
 Bobby O. Mahaffey..... 2012
 John V. Mahan..... 2012
 Lee Melody 2012
 Clyde Matthew Turner..... 2012
 George R. Walrath..... 2012
 John L. Weisenberger 2012
 Edward A. Barwick..... 2011
 Joseph W. Koch, Jr. 2011
 Stephen D. Diument 2009
 David Whittlesey 2009
 Dennis A. Yure..... 2009
 Armen Bagdasarian..... 2008
 Bernard M. Kauderer 2008
 Paul A. Riggs..... 2008
 Rex L. Shields..... 2008
 John L. Von Ulmen 2008
 Francis R. Traser..... 2006
 Melquiades Mares, Jr..... 2005
 Ronald K. Thompson..... 2004
 Michael Varalyai..... 2004
 Hughie T. Blackwell..... 2003
 Robert L. Conboy..... 2003
 James Rogers 2003
 John E. Savela, Jr..... 2003
 Ben Van Devender..... 2002
 Berry S. Yolken 2002
 James E. Carter 1999
 William F. Long..... 1999
 Herbert J. "Bo" Bolton 1998
 Kenneth E. Chunn..... 1998
 *Clifford Bernard Murr ... 1996
 *Royal Harrison, Jr..... 1995
 *Sterling F. Higgins 1995
 *Robert Clair Koplín..... 1995
 *Mark Maynard..... 1994
 *William J. Dillon..... 1993
 *Harold Staggs..... 1992



E-Board Zoom Conference Minutes of Oct. 16, 2021

The Los Angeles-Pasadena Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., E-Board Zoom Conference was conducted on the morning of Saturday, June 19, 2021.

In attendance:

- Dave Vanderveen, Base Commander
- Ed Barwick, Base Vice Commander
- Bill Moak, Secretary
- Mike Swanson, Treasurer
- Ray Teare, COB
- Sam Higa, Director
- Herb "Bo" Bolton, Director
- Paul Riggs, Memorial Director
- Jeff Porteous, *Periscope* Editor

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the Zoom Conference to order at 10:01 hours. Minutes of the September meeting were reviewed. No corrections were requested, so Mike Swanson moved to accept the minutes; this was seconded by Ray and approved by voice vote of the group.

Treasurer's Financial Report: Mike Swanson

The Treasurer's Report as of October 15, 2021 was read into the minutes by Base Treasurer Mike Swanson:

Checking	\$8,334.40
Savings	\$14,885.42
Cash On Hand	\$50.00
Uncleared Checks:	\$00.00
Total	\$23,269.82

All vendors have been paid up-to-date.

Income:	\$265.00
Expenses:	\$82.00

Flower/Booster Club Additions:

Ken Dorn	\$200.00
Sally Moran	\$25.00

Inkind Donations:

\$00.00

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Bill; this was seconded by Dave and approved by voice vote.

Memorial Report:

Paul stated that all is moving along well and that the site looks great! He is working on casting Dolphins from a mold he created, and hopes to place a gold pair and a silver pair at some location on the site. First location he thought could be on trash receptacles. Alternate locations were discussed, with perhaps the best being either on a new pedestal with a fresh plaque explaining the significance of the site, or on the back of the Memorial Sign along Seal Beach Boulevard. Paul and Ed will work together on finding a solution, and present this later to the Board.

(concluded next page)

Why a Submarine Deal has France at Odds with the U.S., U.K. and Australia

(Reproduced from NPR website—published September 19, 2021.)

by Dustin Jones



The USS Missouri in Hawaii—one of the U.S. Navy's new nuclear-powered submarines. The U.S., U.K. and Australia signed into a partnership providing Australia with eight nuclear-powered subs. (U.S. Navy photo via AP.)

Australia bailed on a submarine contract with France worth \$66 billion last week, choosing instead to work with the United States and the United Kingdom. Outraged, France recalled its ambassadors to the U.S. and Australia.

The Australian Navy's six Collins-class submarines are set to reach the end of their service life in 2036. And in 2016, France was chosen over Germany and Japan to help Australia replace its older subs with 12 new diesel-electric submarines. At the time, the Australian government called the Future Submarine project the largest and most complex defense acquisition in the nation's history.

But that was five years ago. And tensions are on the rise in the Indo-Pacific region, which spans from America's west coast to the shores of Australia and India. China's military and political interests

(continued on next page)

E-Board Meeting Minutes...

(concluded from previous page)

Bill made a suggestion that the WWII combat pin be included, and Dave mentioned the Cold War pin as well. All were thought to be good ideas.

Dave brought up that we are only about six months from Memorial Day, and that we should consider trimming the hedge surrounding the Memorial site. Paul will go ahead and contact the landscaper regarding this and other landscape issues.

Installation of Officers:

District Cmdr. Rocky Rockers will be present at today's general meeting to swear in our officers for the year.

Christmas Luncheon:

Mike has completed all necessary legwork, plus the menu, and he will also work up the sign-in sheet to be available in the November *Periscope*. (See page 26.—ed.)

Membership Update:

We now have 106 members, reduced recently by the loss of Dennis Parr and Hughie Blackwell. Dave indicated he and Bo had attended the service for Dennis and learned there had been no specific subvet notification with regard to that ceremony. Hughie Blackwell's service is also to be performed at the Riverside Cemetery, with details as yet unknown. Dave indicated he is very satisfied with our base's membership numbers, and mentioned that Marilyn Senior had reported there are now four new members in the pipeline. Jeff mentioned he'd just heard from Marilyn about a potential fifth: Charles Hinman from the *Bowfin* museum staff and *Bowfin* USSVI Base in Hawaii. Jeff said he was familiar with Charles from when he'd been Jeff's and a friend's host during a special ceremony for surviving *Wahoo* family members held at the Pearl Harbor Subbase some years back, and that he would make a wonderful new member to have on our roster. Welcome aboard, Charles, and all the other new members-in-progress!

For the Good of the Order:

Paul expressed pleasure in our efforts to gain new members. It also happened to be Paul's birthday today: Happy Birthday, Paul! Dave mentioned that current efforts to lure recent retirees and newly separated submariners seems to be working.

Mike mentioned that we must have at least 25 attendees to be able to hold our Christmas Luncheon. Also that mask and other protocols could be in effect, translating to action at that function.

With no further items evident, Ed made a motion to adjourn; Mike seconded, and the meeting was adjourned by voice vote of all present at 1033 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Moak

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI

Sub Deal Sours France

(continued from previous page)

in the region have grown, as has its military fleet, which has more than doubled since 2015, making it the largest naval force on the planet. As a result, Australia said it needs a type of submarine France cannot provide.

“The security challenges in the Indo-Pacific region have grown significantly. Military modernization is occurring at an unprecedented rate and capabilities are rapidly advancing and their reach expanding,” read an Australian media statement on Thursday. “The technological edge enjoyed by Australia and our partners is narrowing.”

Australia announced it would join the U.S. and the U.K. in a trilateral security partnership, AUKUS, which lists the development of nuclear submarines for Australia as priority No. 1. Over the next eighteen months, Australia’s Department of Defense will establish a task force to guide the coalition’s goal to become a “reliable steward” of nuclear technology.

China has called the partnership and, more specifically, the sharing of nuclear technology, irresponsible. Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson Zhao Lijian said the new agreement threatens the stability of the Indo-Pacific.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said nuclear-powered submarines are not just a want, but a need: They’re faster, stronger and stealthier, exactly what Australia needs to protect both

(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: September 24, 2021
Subject: Eternal Patrol notice
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

Shipmates,

With deep regret I must report that USSVI National Chaplain Carsten Stigers departed on Eternal Patrol this morning (Friday, September 24, 2021). He succumbed to pancreatic cancer, which was only diagnosed a short time ago.

Carsten qualified in 1977 on the USS *George C. Marshall* (SSBN-654), was a member of the Requin Base, and had served admirably as our National Chaplain since 2019.

Sailor Rest Your Oar; you have earned the privilege.

Wayne Standerfer

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

From: “USSVI POC: William C. Andrea” <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: September 25, 2021
Subject: Interim National Chaplain
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

Shipmates,

Past National Chaplain and Past Carolina-Piedmont Base Chaplain Raymond Fritz has graciously volunteered to assume and fulfill the responsibilities of National Chaplain on a temporary basis until we find a replacement for Carsten Stigers, who sadly departed on Eternal Patrol Friday, September 24, 2021.

Please keep Carsten’s family in your thoughts and prayers as they struggle through this difficult time.

Until further notice, coordinate all events and/or notices requiring input by our National Chaplain through Raymond at:

Raymond Fritz, (503) 915-3476 - raysabode@bellsouth.net

Thank you,
Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

Sub Deal Sours France

(continued from previous page)

its interests and its people. And though he understands the disappointment the French government is feeling, Morrison said in a press conference Sunday that he had raised submarine capability concerns with France in recent months.

“Ultimately, this was a decision about whether the submarines that were being built, at great cost to the Australian taxpayer, were going to be able to do a job that we needed [them] to do when they went into service,” Morrison said. “And, our strategic judgment, based on the best possible intelligence and defence advice, was that [they] would not.”

The Australian government has long stood against nuclear weapons. In 1970, it chose to abandon any pursuits for nuclear weapons by signing the United Nations’ Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The development of the new submarines will be Australia’s first time utilizing nuclear technology. But the subs will be nuclear-powered, not nuclear-armed. “Australia has no interest in that. No plans for it, no policy for it, no contemplation of it. It’s not on our agenda,” Morrison explained.

However, backing out of the deal has left France feeling betrayed, as well as set back a by a costly investment. The London-based policy think tank Chatham House said the broken deal will affect thousands of workers in France’s defense industry.

(concluded on next page)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

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

From: “USSVI POC: William C. Andrea” <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: September 30, 2021
Subject: October 2021 VSO Newsletter
Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO

How to Get Your COVID-19 Shot Record Online from the VA:
<https://bit.ly/2WtEWsZ>

Veterans Can Be Reimbursed for Travel to Medical Appointments:
<https://bit.ly/3ilWxej>

Lawmakers Try to Ban Dishonorable Discharges for Troops Who Refuse Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccines:
<https://bit.ly/39Rt9bd>

Why U.S. Navy Submarines Might Return Home ‘Flying’ a Broom:
<https://bit.ly/3ipfoF4>

Navy Reconsidering Plan to Cut Medical Staff in Light of COVID-19 Pandemic:
<https://bit.ly/3B5vmfa>

Questions About Infamous Lost Sub Resurface as Navy Releases New Documents Tied to Decades-Old Mystery:
<https://bit.ly/3mdeZXp>

Will the VA Pay for Your Funeral? The Answer May Surprise You:
<https://bit.ly/3mcNE7Y>

Retirees to Pay More for Tricare Enrollment While Pharmacy Copays Rise for All in 2022:
<https://bit.ly/3AZ1qRI>

Veterans Looking for VA Benefits Help Might Need to Get a New Login Soon:
<https://bit.ly/3B0DI7t>

VA Will Keep Paying Caregiver Benefits During Review That Could Cut Off One-Third of Enrolled 9/11 Vets:
<https://bit.ly/3F1z37X>

All GI Bill Users Soon Will Be Required to Contact the VA Each Month to Receive Payment:
<https://bit.ly/2Y6zJYp>

Veterans, Gold Star Families Get Free Entrance to National Parks, Refuges, Other Public Lands:
<https://bit.ly/3kVdbmr>

Enhanced Pension Benefits Can Help Eligible Wartime Veterans, Surviving Spouses Increase Income:
<https://bit.ly/2Y7wsrR>

(continued on next page)

Sub Deal Sours France

(concluded from previous page)

More importantly, the institute said, Australia's new deal with the U.K. and U.S. has left France seemingly alone on the strategic landscape.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian described the new partnership as "unacceptable behavior between allies and partners" Friday. And the Associated Press reported Sunday that French President Emmanuel Macron is set to speak with President Joe Biden in the coming days about the botched billion-dollar-deal. French government spokesperson Gabriel Attal said the surprise was initially met with "shock" and "anger," but that it's important to move forward.

The phone call came at the request of Biden, the AP reported, but spokesman Attal said Macron will press the president about what led to Australia's new endeavor with the U.S.

AmazonSmile Charity Update

Good news, shipmates—this just in from AmazonSmile: "This is your quarterly notification to inform you that... U.S. Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc. received a new donation of \$406.24.

AmazonSmile's impact to date: \$5,444.68 to U.S. Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc. Thanks for continuing to generate donations by shopping at smile.amazon.com." (Note: it's easy to set up your account to donate small amounts to this charity through your regular Amazon purchases. Check it out!—ed.)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

COVID-19 Vaccines for Moderately to Severely Immunocompromised People:
<https://bit.ly/3B1zhtb>

You Asked, We Answered: What Should I Know About Additional COVID-19 Vaccine Doses?
<https://bit.ly/3B1ztsp>

VA Burial Benefits and Memorial Items:
<https://bit.ly/3uqSz8Z>

This Next One Leads to a Large Website That Can Answer All of Your Questions! DOD to Beneficiaries with Expired ID Cards: Renew Now!
<https://bit.ly/39Rj6Tk>

The U.S. Navy Backed the Hunt for *Titanic* to "Drive the Soviets Crazy," Explorer's Book Reveals:
<https://bit.ly/39RvZgn>

John Dudas
USSVI Veteran Service Officer
john.dudas.ssn571@gmail.com *Dave*

Shipmates and Ladies,
This message includes a link for access to the latest issue of American Submariner.
Dave

From: Rocky Rockers <rockymt1ss@gmail.com>
Date: Friday Oct. 1, 2021
Subject: Fwd: Digital Access to the 2021 *American Submariner* 4th Qtr. Edition

----- Forwarded message -----
From: <vmjvanhorn@aol.com>
Date: Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021

AHOY ALL DC'S: PLEASE FORWARD THIS INFO. ALONG TO YOUR BC'S. ITS A WORKAROUND TO SEE THE NEWEST PUBLICATION OF THE *AMERICAN SUBMARINER*.

Regards,
Vic, WRD

Shipmates,

Due to a continuing situation beyond our control, we cannot upload the *American Submariner* 2021 4th Quarter Edition to our current website.

As a temporary workaround, we have made this latest edition available by the use of Google Drive.

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

<https://bit.ly/3F56tmc>

(continued on next page)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

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

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

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

From: USSVI POC: William C. Andrea <NJVC@USSVI.ORG>
Sent: Thursday, October 7, 2021
Subject: Coronavirus funeral reimbursement
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

A previous bulletin on this topic did not transmit the link correctly. Try this one. If it does not work by clicking on it, copy and paste it directly into your browser.

Shipmates,

Just for your information, if your relative has passed away from the coronavirus, the government may help pay funeral and burial costs up to a total of \$9,000.

This will take you to the explanatory website, including contact phone number and application: <https://bit.ly/3oILEao>

All the best and take care,
Wayne Standerfer
National Commander

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

From: "USSVI POC: William C. Andrea" <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: October 8, 2021
Subject: Fake email requests alert

Shipmates,

The E-mail Spoofer is at it again. Someone has composed a listing of USSVI Office Holders and other members and is in the process of sending out messages posing as me or one of our other officers with a request to buy gift cards.

DO NOT AND I REPEAT DO NOT respond to these messages in any form, they are not from me or other officers.

These listings are easily composed when our members continue to send out messages and they include a long listing of other e-mail addresses in the To and Cc lines of the message. We have sent numerous notices to the membership asking everyone not to do this, but for whatever reason, some continue to ignore this request.

I repeat one more time: **Do Not list a long line of recipients in the "To" or "Cc" lines of your E-mails.** Use the "Bcc" line. If you need more clarifications as to why this must be done, contact me at -lwaynes@charter.net or 214-707-8277 and I will be glad to explain it in more detail until you do understand.

Back to the notice concerning the E-mail Spoofer using my name: check the return E-mail address, that discrepancy

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

alone should be a red flag the message did not originate from me.

Wake up guys and pay attention,
Wayne Standerfer
National Commander, USSVI

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

From: "USSVI POC: William C. Andrea" <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: October 18, 2021 at 4:24:07 PM PDT
Subject: Eternal Patrol Notice
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

Shipmates,

With deep regret I pass along a message received from the son of Past National Awards Chairman John Stanford. Please keep John's family in your prayers.

Wayne Standerfer
National Commander

Friends,

My name is Gregory Stanford, writing to inform you of my father, John Stanford's passing.

John passed last Friday, 10/15 @ 0920. He spoke highly of many of you and as you know was active in the Legion, VFW, USSVI, etc. Please feel free to forward this information to other friends or interested parties.

We will be holding the service on 11/17 @ 1100 at:

Beaches Chapel by Hardage-Giddens
1701 Beach Blvd
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
Google Maps link: <https://bit.ly/3pnpdYJ>

This will be a short service and open to all.

We respectfully request that those who desire to make a donation, in lieu of flowers, please send it to:

Terry Parker Baptist Church
7024 Merrill Road
Jacksonville, FL 32277 <https://bit.ly/3aTJRHQ>

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thank you,
Gregory Stanford

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

(concluded on next page)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(concluded from previous page)

From: "USSVI POC: William C. Andrea" <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: October 27, 2021
Subject: 2022-2023 USSVCF Scholarship Application bulletin
Submitted by: Robert E. Frick, USSVCF Scholarship Chairman

The Chairman and Board Members of the USSVI Charitable Fund Academic Scholarship Program announce that on Oct. 31, 2021 the 2022-2023 Academic Year Application Period and application website will be opened.

The USSVCF Scholarship Procedure—including eligibility and application requirements and specific action information—is provided for distribution to all members and to their eligible children, grandchildren, and legal dependents.

This procedure is posted on the USSVI website (Charitable Fund Documents/Scholarship Application page) and on the USSVCF website (under the "Funds" and "Application" Down Tabs).

Sponsors, parents, and applicants should read this procedure prior to registration to ensure a smooth, accurate and successfully completed application.

Questions or issues in reaching the Application Document? Inform the Scholarship Chairman by email or by phone. Applications must be completed on or before May 15, 2022.

Robert E Frick
Chairman, USSVCF Scholarship Program
refrickussvcf@gmail.com • phone: 703-772-3304



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-771)	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?

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

Armstrong - It Was Home

(concluded from page 11)

“That’s no shit, Hawkeye. Mr. Schilling sure attracts good-looking ladies. I brought my girl aboard one afternoon and Mr. Schilling was standin’ on deck up by the JT soundhead and Trixie said, “Oh, who’s that?”

“Who’s who?”

“That good-looking man up there.”

“Oh. That’s Mr. Schilling, the very happily married OPS Officer and our religious guidance confessor.”

“Noel K. Schilling. Great guy, but man, he can light up your ass up like a Fourth of July picnic if you screw up on his watch. He forgot more stuff about submarines than most officers will ever know.”

“Hey, knock off the bullshit. Who’s doing the eggs? I’m doin’ the steaks.”

“If I do ’em, you’d better like ’em scrambled. Did anybody check with the Below Decks Watch and Topside Watch to see if they want any?”

“Peto has the Topside Watch and somebody gave the sonuvabitch half a stale pizza so he’s in heaven. And Butter Bean has the Below Decks and that sonuvabitch will eat anything, anytime, so toss another steak on for him.”

“Hey below.”

“Yo...”

“Got a walkin’ wounded boatsailor up here. Need someone to lend a hand getting him below.”

“Who is it?”

“John T. And he’s carrying a package—crooked to the gills.”

“Get him to the after battery hatch and we’ll take him from there.”

“Owe you one...”

“What’s this ‘owe you one’ stuff? Andy, John T. is crew. Someday, horsefly, he’ll haul you back. That’s what boatsailors do for boatsailors. Nobody ever owes anybody anything—get that through your thick head. Now get his damn feet on that first ladder rung...”

“Hey, John... John?”

“Yeah, son? Whatcha need?”

“Gotta getcha down, babe.”

“I’m a li’l under the weather, son... Li’l bent outta shape.”

“It’s okay, just don’t run your leg through the ladder... You’re doin’ great.”

“No... I know... I’m really shot up... Carryin’ a cargo.”

“John... It’s okay. Take it easy. We’re gonna pop you in this rack. Can you handle a cup of coffee?”

“Nah... Got a jug hidden out.”

“John, you don’t need a drink. Take my word for it.”

“Hey! Your damn steak is getting cold.”

“Let’s get wrapped around this steak, ’clean up and square away the galley. Remember, Mr. Schilling said they would be racking out linehandlers at 0530 and that’s us.”

And it was all long ago. The faces and names you never forgot. Just a Saturday night with the boys.

I have always felt sorry for guys who hated their military service. You know, the guy who served in the Ohio Guard and was a file clerk at Camp Donald Duck next to a town of 150 in Arkansas. Poor bastard. Stupid sonuvabitch could have volunteered for the boats. Stale air... Stench... Hotsacking... Cockroaches... Acid-eaten dungarees... No sunshine for long periods and crazy bastards taking care of each other.

For a lifetime.

*Keep a zero
bubble . . .*

Dex.





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

From: Marilyn Senior, Membership Chairwoman <marilyn.senior@gmail.com>

Date: October 5, 2021

To: Periscope Readership



Blacky - Sailor, Rest Your Oar

Shipmates,

So sorry to report the passing of another longtime member of our Los Angeles-Pasadena Base: Hugh “Blacky” Blackman. He used to drive all the way in from Temecula to attend our meetings, and he will be greatly missed by our members.

For those who wish to send a card, email, or to telephone your condolences to Blacky’s family, below is the contact information. Hughie liked to be called “Blacky” by his submarine buddies and friends. He had celebrated his 89th birthday back in June.

Hughie T. Blackwell (Wife of 67 years: Theresa)
32212 Via Cordaro
Temecula, California 92592-3824

Theresa’s cell: 951-326-7863
Theresa’s email address (shared with Blacky): blacky393@hotmail.com

Blacky joined USSVI as a Life Member in 2008 and was a Holland Club Member too, qualified for 68 years. He also was a member of the *Scamp* Base.

Boat served on: USS *Queenfish* (SS-393)—aboard from 1952-1953.

Blacky qualified in submarines on the *Queenfish* (SS-393) in 1953 and was an TM2(SS) when he left the Navy. He was an E5, serving from 1951-1955.

Blacky will be cremated and laid to rest at the Riverside National Cemetery, 22495 Van Buren Boulevard, Riverside, CA 92518. Theresa will later furnish details regarding his funeral services. I spoke to her on the phone this evening and was glad to learn that Blacky had passed quickly, and had been at home with his loving family when the time came.

We are losing too many of our submarine veterans.

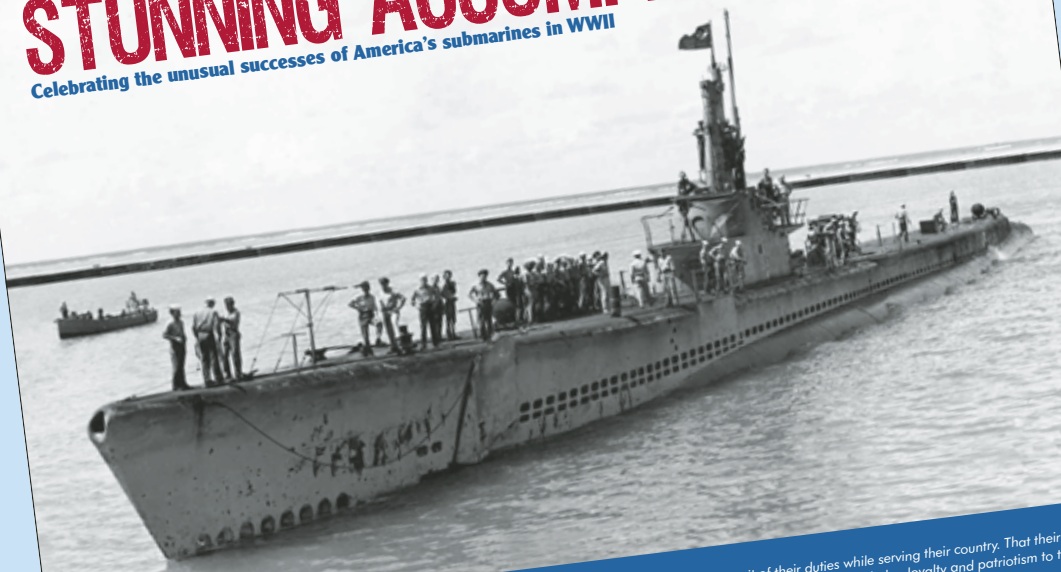
Marilyn

Marilyn Senior, Membership
1278 W. Sepulveda Street
San Pedro, CA 90732-2948
cell: 310-503-3915

2022 United States Submarine Veterans Calendar

STUNNING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Celebrating the unusual successes of America's submarines in WWII



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

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



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

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

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

The all-new 2022 USSVI Submarine Calendar
Order Now!

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

Barry Commons

USSVI National Storekeeper

2063 Main St. PMB 293 • Oakley, CA 94561

Email: NSK.USSVI@yahoo.com

Phone: (925) 679-1744

Quantity discounts available.



USS Barb Derails Home Island Train Schedule

Her late-war patrol report reads almost like a movie script. The renowned USS Barb (SS-220), put through her paces by the fearless Eugene Fluckey and his crew of creative cutthroats, sets out to do something really unique and impressive. Launch rockets from her foredeck at Japanese targets in a prescient take on nuclear missile submarines. So a plot is hatched to send a raiding party submerging in rubber boats—the only Allied incursion on Japanese home island soil in WWII—with a daring mission in mind. Trains have been observed running close to shore. Why not take a scuttling charge.

plant it on the track, and blow one sky high! Easy-peasy! Six, under cover of darkness, this band of marauders does exactly this, jury-rigging an ingeniously simple pressure switch as a detonator. But the train shows up a little early, eliciting a mad scramble to finish up and paddle like crazy back to the waiting Barb before the explosion can light saboteurs returned, the railroad met its fate, cartwheeling through the air as our heroes barely made it back in time and Barb logged it out of there too safe. Afterwards, the Karafuto train schedule was never quite the same.

July 2022

(Three submarines and 204 men lost)

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

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

Proceeds to benefit USSVI operations and projects.

THE L.A.-PASADENA BASE, USSVI ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

On Saturday, December 18, 2021 the L.A.-Pasadena Base USSVI will hold their annual Christmas luncheon for the year 2021. The luncheon will be held at the Los Alamitos Golf Course; On the Greens Conference Center, 5660 Oranewood Ave., Cypress, Ca 90630

It is a time of year to visit with our submarine friends and their guests. More time will be devoted to this activity. This year rather than the Tolling of the Boats, Dave Vanderveen is preparing a special presentation.

Social Hour: 11:30AM. - Luncheon served 12:15PM



This Year's Menu is as Follows:

Tossed Garden Salad with Ranch and Italian dressings on the side

Entrée Selection:

Chicken piccata

Oven-roasted Potatoes and Green Beans Almondine, Dinner Rolls and Butter

Grilled flat iron Steak

Oven-roasted Potatoes and Green Beans Almondine, Dinner Rolls and Butter

Vegetarian Option

*Mushroom Raviolis
Dinner Rolls and Butter*



Beverage: Coffee, iced tea

Dessert: Cheesecake with Raspberry Drizzle

Sparkling Cider/Champagne Toast

As always, it is very important that you get your reservations in ASAP so that we can give the Golf Course a firm headcount no later than 12 days before the luncheon.

The cost of the luncheon will be \$30.00 per person. Cocktails will be available from the main bar.

Please send your check and reservations (checks made out to LA/Pasadena Base USSVI) to the address shown below. Be sure to indicate your choice of entrée and how many of each.

Name: _____

Chicken piccata _____

Name: _____

Flat iron steak _____

Guest: _____

Mushroom ravioli _____

Guest: _____

Total # of dinners _____ X \$30.00 \$ _____

Mail to: Mike Swanson
1149 W. Santa Cruz St.
San Pedro, CA 90731
Phone: 310-832-5981



USS Honolulu (SSN-718)

Among the last of the Los Angeles boats to feature her diving planes mounted on the sail. (U.S. Navy)



*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 | | |

