



**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

With COVID continuing to keep us all at bay, it's good to see how well the Zoom meetings are working out overall for the base. Keep the faith, mask up, get your vaccination when available, and we'll all be back together eventually. Till then, as usual, I'll be in the Yeoman's Shack if anyone needs me. Stay safe!—Jeff

## Navy's Newest Fast Attack Submarine Successfully Completes First Sea Trials

*(Reproduced from NewsMaritime Security website - originally posted September 1, 2019)*

by Dylan Malyasov

The U.S. Navy's newest *Virginia*-class fast attack submarine, *Delaware* (SSN-791), has successfully completed the initial sea trials.

The American shipbuilder Huntington Ingalls, Inc., has reported that the new submarine, in the final stages of construction, spent three days at sea proving all of its systems, components and compartments. *Delaware* submerged for the first time and performed high-speed maneuvers on the surface and underwater.

"*Delaware* performed well during sea trials, which is a testament to the skill and craftsmanship of the incredible team of shipbuilders who are working



*Photo by Ashley Cowan/HII*

to uphold our high standards of quality," said Dave Bolcar, Newport News' vice president of submarine construction. "We look forward to continuing our testing program to deliver the submarine to the U.S. Navy later this year."

The submarine is scheduled to undergo a round of acceptance trials before it is delivered. More than 10,000 shipbuilders from Newport News and teaming partner General Dynamics Electric Boat and thousands of companies across 48 states have participated in *Delaware's* construction since the work began in September, 2013.

This fast attack submarine is the eighth and final of the Block III submarines that feature a revised bow, including some technology from *Ohio*-class SSGNs.

The *Virginia*-class attack submarine is the U.S. Navy's latest undersea warfare platform and incorporates the latest in stealth, intelligence gathering and weapons systems technology.

*Virginia*-class submarines are designed for a broad spectrum of open-ocean and littoral missions, including anti-submarine warfare and intelligence gathering operations. They are scheduled to replace older *Los Angeles*-class submarines, many of which have already been decommissioned.



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**L.A.-PASADENA BASE WEBSITE**

[www.socalsubvets.org](http://www.socalsubvets.org)

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## From the Wardroom...



Dave Vanderveen,  
*Base Commander*

Shipmates and Ladies,

We are well into 2021, and as always are experiencing some sad events and some good events. Shipmates have lost loved ones, while some have experienced the virus which has disrupted our society and cost many lives and livelihoods. Others have enjoyed pleasure in the commitment of family members to marriage, the birth of new family members, or accomplishments by grandchildren in school, Scouting, and military service.

Life may be returning to "normal" as constraints are lifted with the downturn in viral infections and the increase in vaccinations. Even the state of California is lifting the most draconian parts of its lockdown.

As freedoms return, though, please continue to protect your health and safety. Soon, we should be able to celebrate the routine events and pleasures many of us took for granted until last spring. I look forward to the simple enjoyment of meeting with you all again to share lunch and some "sea stories."

Altogether, these things confirm that life does indeed go on, and I am grateful for that!

*Dave Vanderveen*

*Commander*

Los Angeles-Pasadena Base



## January Zoom Mtg. Sailing List

Ed Barwick  
Herb "Bo" Bolton  
Sam Higa  
Joe Koch  
Jack Mahan  
Bill Moak  
Vernon Murphy  
Bruce Neighbors  
Jeff Porteous  
Chuck Senior  
Mike Swanson  
Dave Vanderveen  
Ron Wagner  
Dennis Walsh  
"Willie" Williamson  
Gary Wheaton



## General Minutes of January 16, 2021 Zoom Mtg.

Dave Vanderveen, Base Commander, opened the meeting at 1105 hrs., once again via Zoom video conference. Willie Williamson then led us in prayer with an invocation, followed by Dave's reading of the USSVI Purpose, then a request for a moment of silence for our departed shipmates.

### Treasurer's Report:

Mike Swanson provided financial details for the base accounts as of Jan. 15, 2021. The specifics have been approved by the E-Board and appear in its meeting's minutes. (*See pg. 12—ed.*)

### Memorial Report:

In Paul Riggs' absence, Dave indicated he would visit the Memorial site and pass along to Paul any issues requiring attention. Dave then covered his recent discussion with the Bremerton Base, who has had a similar memorial brick program underway for some time without restrictions from its area JAG. Dave will move forward in hopes of a combined meeting with our area JAG and Gregg Smith, Weapons Station PAO, to further discuss viability of going forward with both sale and installation of bricks on our Memorial site. No info. will be mentioned concerning Bremerton's activity, so as to not bring any trouble their way.

A brief reference was made to the sale of USSVI's 2021 calendars, and that the USSVI website can be accessed for their purchase through the National Storekeeper.

### Base Charitable Donation Plan:

Ed Barwick explained the committee's decision on our base's charitable donations for 2021. Please refer to the E-board meeting minutes for the breakdown approved by the Board. (*See pg. 13—ed.*) Dave also referenced how more specific guidelines will be established for charity consideration based upon experience gained through this past year's process. Dave also commented on the recent growth of base membership since 2020, now back up to 110 members. Most of our prior reduction had been through expected attrition, but we're all happy with the influx of new blood to face needed messcooking and the like. ;-)

### Art Wilson's Funeral Service:

Dave mentioned a limited number of subvet attendance slots were available for Art's funeral due to a thirty-person overall limit. Bo Bolton and Bonnie & Ed Barwick plan to go, and Dave asked that any additional requests be routed through Ed Barwick at edsubvet@gmail.com—submitted no later than noon tomorrow (Jan. 17). We asked that this decision deadline be honored so any remaining open slots could be returned for additional family use.

Gary Wheaton spoke about his contraction of the virus, even though, as he put it, he and his wife were "Scaredy Cats": isolating at home, no kids or relatives met, and only drive-through pharmacy visits. Yet he was still hit by the bug. His wife wasn't, fortunately, but both had to quarantine from each other. Further evidence of the strength of this virus. Be cautious!

With no further comment, Gary made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dave at 1130 hrs.

Submitted by,

**Bill Moak**

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI



**Feb. Meeting to be Zoom Video Conference**  
(See details on Chapter News page.)

## Feb. Meeting

**Date:** Feb. 20, 2021

Again this month, our usual base meeting will be conducted as a Zoom video conference. This software for internet-based meetings has been working well for many groups wanting or needing to remain "face-to-face" during the global pandemic. See the Chapter News page for details. Hope to see your smiling face among the crowd!

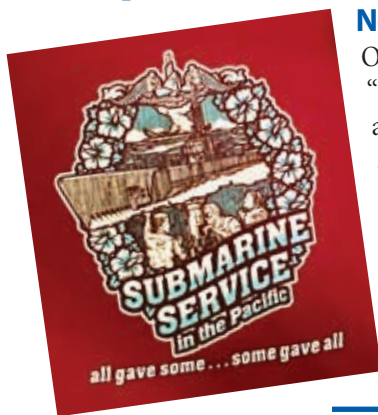
## Base Birthdays in February...

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

David Semrau..... 2/10  
Joe Koch..... 2/17  
Marlene Mahan..... 2/17  
Karen Silverman..... 2/23  
"Hot Rod" Herron ..... 2/24  
Berry Yolken. .... 2/24  
Dave Whittlesey..... 2/26



## 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!

### 2021 Calendars Now Available!

Get yours through the USSVI website or see details elsewhere in this issue. Don't miss it—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 (x2!) • Jack & Marlene Mahan  
Ed Kushins • Skip Loveless • Mike Varalyia



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

## FEBRUARY TOLLING OF THE BOATS



USS BARBEL (SS-316)



USS SHARK I (SS-174)



USS AMBERJACK (SS-219)

### USS BARBEL (SS-316)

Lost on 4 February 1945 with the loss of 81 officers and men on her third war patrol. Based on Japanese records, she was bombed near the southern entrance to the Palawan Passage. The day before, she reported she survived three depth charge attacks.

### USS SHARK I (SS-174)

Lost on 11 February 1942 with the loss of 59 officers and men on her first war patrol. Shark was the first U.S. submarine sunk by enemy surface craft in the Pacific. She was most likely sunk by depth charges.

### USS AMBERJACK (SS-219)

Lost on 16 February 1943 with the loss of 72 officers and men on her third war patrol. Off Rabaul, she was attacked by a Japanese patrol plane, attacked by a torpedo boat, and then depth charged by a subchaser.

### USS GRAYBACK (SS-208)

Lost on 27 February 1944 with the loss of 80 officers and men on her 10th war patrol. She appears to have been caught on the surface in the East China Sea by a Japanese carrier plane whose bombs made a direct hit. During this patrol *Grayback* sank four ships totaling 21,594 tons and was tied for 11th in the number of ships sunk.

### USS TROUT (SS-202)

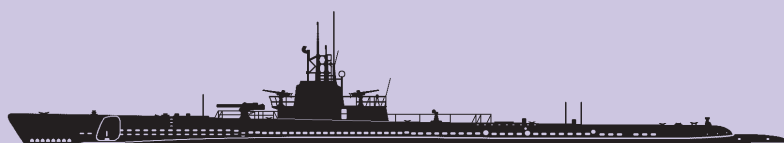
Lost on 29 February 1944 with the loss of 79 officers and men on her 11th war patrol. She was sunk by escorts in the middle of the Philippines Basin after sinking a passenger-cargoman and damaging another in a convoy. *Trout* carried out several notable special missions, including carrying over two tons of gold bullion out of Corregidor in February 1942.



USS GRAYBACK (SS-208)



USS TROUT (SS-202)



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

# Could America's Submarine Fleet be Surpassed by China's?

(Reproduced from The Maritime Executive website - December 20, 2020)

by Ankur Kundu



*Submarine image via Chinese state media.*

Currently, the U.S. Navy has a submarine force that is bigger than its Chinese counterpart when it comes to numbers. The U.S. has 68 submarines and China has 66, according to the official count. This makes the U.S. Navy the second-largest submarine force in the world (by numbers), right after North Korea. However, North Korea's 71 submarines are very old, with some dating back to the Korean War.

China comes in at third place, followed by Russia, which has about 64 submarines. However, we could expect major changes in the rankings in the coming decade. Based on the number of submarines both of these navies have under construction, it is likely that the U.S. and China will trade places on the list by 2030. By that date, the People's Liberation Army Navy (or PLAN) will have around 10 more submarines than America. This will make the PLAN the largest submarine force in the world (in addition to the largest navy overall).

A Congressional report on the annual long-range "Plan for Construction of Naval Vessels" highlights the U.S. Navy's submarine force strength over the years to come. The plan involves building more submarines for the most advanced navy in the world, increasing the rate to three a

year for the *Virginia*-class subs. The projected growth will be from 70 in 2022 to 92 in 2051. This doesn't include a dip in numbers that the U.S. Navy will incur due to the decommissioning of older submarines. The low point will be between 2025 and 2030. This is also when China's investment in new sub construction facilities are expected to pay off.

There is some variation among the estimates of the growth of the PLAN's future submarine fleet, according to the U.S. Congressional Research Service's report on China Naval Modernization. Given China's investment in shipyard infrastructure, an expansion of its sub fleet is possible, in the view of the U.S. Navy's Office of Naval Intelligence.

But numbers aren't the whole story. Many of China's submarines are diesel-electric, and are far smaller and shorter-ranged than the nuclear submarines operated in the U.S. fleet. Some of the latest Chinese subs have air-independent propulsion (AIP). AIP conveys a major advantage in submarine warfare: it is very stealthy and allows the submarine to stay submerged for a longer period, thereby making it harder to detect.

*The opinions expressed herein are the author's and not necessarily those of The Maritime Executive.*



# Saved by the Rain: World War II Sub Crew Lived Thanks to a Storm

(Reproduced from the Military News website - published December 15, 2020)

by Lewis Turner



thousands of other submariners in World War II were some of the first to pierce the Pacific Front.

It was the submarines that really lead the way against Japan, considering a good portion of the American surface fleet had been disabled in the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Yet for some reason, the Japanese never bombed the submarines or fuel reserves which were precariously close to the battleships they'd sunk in the harbor.

It was sailors like Holte and Antonio Faella, affectionately known as "bubbleheads," who were able to get out first.

"When the war broke out, about the only thing we had out there was submarines," Faella said. "We held the Japanese front until the surface craft could arrive."

That had some devastating impact.

Keith Post, a submariner and historian who runs the submarine museum in St. Mary's, GA, put it this way:

"The sub force suffered the highest rate of casualty of any other force in the war." He explained it was indeed a small force, but by statistical percentage, the statement was true. *Many* men serving on submarines did not come home.

"If a boat went down, all eighty guys went down," Post added. "You didn't survive that."

"I think about how horrible it must have been for them to go down," Faella said. "I think about when I was depth charged, and we made it, some men weren't so lucky."

Often it did take luck, or maybe some divine intervention to survive these situations. Archie's sub had nowhere to hide. They just had to sit and wait, in total silence, wondering if the Japanese warship above would finish them off.

"If he made one more pass, he would have blown the hatch off," Holte said. "But a typical [Pacific] rain shower came in and he couldn't hear us anymore."

The rain had been just loud enough to camouflage their movements. A simple shower most would surely take for granted had granted that Holte would be alive today.

"Grace of God, yeah—we might not be here anymore."

*Submariners suffered some of the greatest losses during WWII because when a boat went down, there were generally no survivors. (For the video version of this story, click on <https://bit.ly/38tYO10> —ed.)*

**K**INGS BAY BASE, Ga. — Archie Holte thinks of rain showers a bit differently than most people would.

"We were going through the Lombok Strait," Holte remembered. "We had to go through at night because they could shoot you from both sides."

During World War II, he served and remembers going days underwater without ever seeing the sky, let alone the rain.

Holte, and the men who served alongside him, were going through a treacherous stretch of islands, a strait which separated the South China Sea, Pacific and Indian Oceans. It was a narrow body of water where submarines had no place to hide.

Since theirs is known as the Silent Service, they depended on stealth to avoid attacking ships that were just above on the surface.

"This one ship we came across was a depth charge factory, because boy he really laid it on us," Holte remembers.

The Japanese ship was sending down a rain of depth charges which could send the crew of the submarine to their deaths in only an instant.

For a bit of historical perspective, Holte, his crew and the

# The Siesta Nest

by Bob "Dex" Armstrong

Up forward in the superstructure below the walking deck was a tiny independent kingdom on *Requin* known as the "Siesta Nest." It was ruled by King Stukey and inhabited by a kind of moth-eaten raggedy-ass population known as the deck force. Its independence was assured by its inaccessibility. No one above E-3 would ever have a purpose to visit or any desire to do so...and I doubt any officer even knew it existed. We figured the Siesta Nest was safe unless in some moment of insane behavior we applied for membership in the United Nations or attempted to obtain foreign aid.

The kingdom was defined as the space between the bow planes bull gears and the portside limber holes, opposite the chain locker and forward of the impulse air flasks. No nuke could have found it unless God gave them three wise men, camels and floated a star forward of the first salvage air deck plate.

It wasn't very large. You could cover the entire area with a few foulweather jackets and a flattened accumulated lamination of corrugated Krispie Kreme doughnut cartons. Stocked with books, girlie and sports magazines, this became a fairly comfortable hidden Shangri-La. The free-flooding deck allowed light to penetrate through the slots with the intermittant decking providing shade. Air circulated freely through the limber holes providing enough cross-ventilation to clear cigarette smoke.

If the National Association of Loafing, Lazy and Good-for-Nothing Sonuvabitches had created plans and specifications for a damned near perfect place to goof off, they couldn't have come up with anything even remotely approaching the Siesta Nest.

All you had to do was a series of unevenly spaced taps on an air flask to convey the impression that the gang was engaged in productive work. There was only so much inanimate metal and superfluous crap that you could chip, scrape, wirebrush, slap zinc chromate on and paint. Outside of three or four areas that you would need a gynecologist for midgets to get into, we had covered it all. Besides, nobody ever went down there. The place was like a birthmark on Queen Elizabeth's butt. Why worry about it? Who's gonna see it?

We never thought about the boats becoming submarine memorials. We heard that Gillette got 'em all and whacked them up for "Blue Blades." We heard the girls at the razor blade factory didn't care about the number of layers of zinc

chromate the inside of the superstructure came with. It all looked the same when the crane lifted, electromagnet-hauled it out of the crap compactor. Ethical behavior dictated that we should not waste taxpayer funds on unnecessary zinc chromate and number seven gray.

So, we spent our productive time creating the National Seagoing Skinbook Library: a large collection of paperback novels containing erotic plots and a variety of interesting anatomically challenging acts few people in the world above the walking deck had ever heard of or could have envisioned without having been recently exposed to the literary world of non-qualified personnel.

Adrian Stuke, our supreme ruler, benevolent despot and master librarian, ran the Nest. He owned most of the finer books: *I Was Kidnapped by Biker Babes*, *Lust-Starved WACs at Fort Benning* and *The Land of Lesbian Love*, just to name a few.

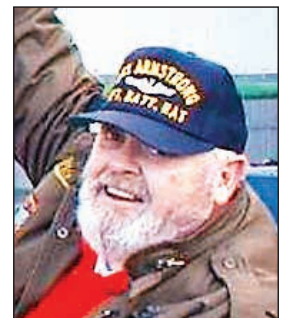
We spent hours professionally critiquing this literature and ritualistically cussing anyone involved in the qualification process, all qualified old timers, lifers, the Chief of the Boat, the entire crew of the *Orion*, airdales, the tin can navy, shore patrol, the Secretary of the Navy, and everyone in France.

Most heavy-duty E-3 thinking, griping and plotting was done in the Siesta Nest. We raised totally non-productive whining to an art form. The fuse to ninety percent of the explosive nonsense and grab-ass that went on, on *Requin*, was lit in the Siesta Nest.

In the annals of American history, the Siesta Nest ranks right up there with Butch Cassidy's "Hole in the Wall," "The Briar Patch," "The Bat Cave," and the place where Jeezus rolled away The Rock.

The Nest had a very select list of members. In 1961, we won the Academy Award for the best sound effects to imitate productive work. Some Hollywood star with a gigantic set of boobs had to accept it for us. We were too busy engaged in national security work providing target time to deaf, dumb and blind naval pilots.

Keep a zero bubble . . . Dex.



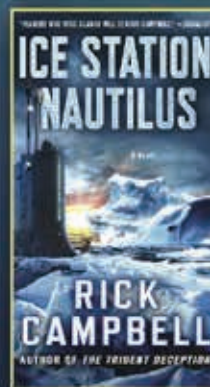


**"Readers who miss Tom Clancy will devour Campbell."—Booklist**

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(PRE-ORDER OR PURCHASE WHERE YOU BUY YOUR BOOKS — HARDCOVER, EBOOK, OR AUDIOBOOK)**



## New Members

We proudly welcome aboard our newest base shipmates:

**Edward "Ed" Elliot Kushins**  
(LT-03SS; served '68-'79)

Spouse: Mary Hamilton

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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-STSS 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)

**Vernon Paul "Max" Murphy**  
(E5-EM2SS; served 1993-2000)

Wife: Aom

241 E. Elmwood Ave. Apt. 101

Burbank, CA 91502-2662

cell: 818-395-7154

vernonmurphy@att.net

Qualified in 1997 on the

USS *Jefferson City* (SSN-759)

**Bruce Evan Neighbors**

(E4-TM3SS; served '68-'70)

Wife: Susan

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bruceneighbors@gmail.com

Qualified in 1969 on the

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**William "Greg" Moore**

(E5-FT2SS; served '92-'00)

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cell: 972-837-5020

wgregm@gmail.com

Qualified in 1993 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...*

### Now Hear This:

- **L.A.-Pasadena Feb. meeting to be held as a Zoom conference. (Dave Vanderveen will also provide phone participation info. via e-mail for those wishing to again participate by teleconference call only.)**
- **To access Zoom, type "Zoom.US" (without the quotation marks) into your internet browser, then select "signup for free." Set up your user I.D. and passcode, then on meeting day prior to 11:00 a.m., just follow the steps to sign in. Or: *just click on Dave's e-mailed link to the meeting.***

### Custom-Made Deluxe Rare Wood Ballpoint Pens from Dennis Bott

Everyone's favorite craftsman—our woodworking shipmate, Dennis Bott—hereby announces his latest project: a selection of custom-made deluxe submarine-themed twist-type ballpoint pens, now for sale as a base fundraiser. They are made of exotic hardwoods and feature Dolphin pocket clips in silver or gold. Cost is \$35 each (half goes to the base, the other half covers Dennis for his materials). They are available to order now. Please contact Dennis directly at 562-355-0230 with your interest and to arrange payment and shipping or pickup.

- 6) Bahia Rosewood (Patagonia)  
5) Olivewood (Jerusalem)  
4) Lacewood/Leopardwood (Aust.)  
3) Brazilian Rosewood  
2) Rosewood (Indonesia) 1) Ebony (Gabon)



### Fundraiser for the Base





John P. Holland

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

(75-year members noted with \*)

Edward E. Kushins ..... 2020  
 Bruce Evan Neighbors ..... 2020  
 David H. Vanderveen ..... 2019  
 Philip J. Jaskoviak ..... 2019  
 Dennis Bott ..... 2018  
 James A. Burnett ..... 2018  
 Robert Miller ..... 2018  
 John A. Anderson ..... 2017  
 Roger C. Dunham, MD ..... 2017  
 Richard McPherson ..... 2017  
 Harry "Bill" Moak ..... 2017  
 Louis A. Myerson ..... 2017  
 Elliot Rada ..... 2017  
 Ronald G. Wagner ..... 2017  
 Dennis J. Walsh ..... 2017  
 Michael Kish ..... 2016  
 Gary Wheaton ..... 2016  
 Lawrence R. Butler ..... 2015  
 Samuel T. Higa ..... 2015  
 Harry P. Ross ..... 2015  
 Stephen C. Rowe ..... 2015  
 Charles H. Senior ..... 2015  
 Larry E. Smith ..... 2015  
 Sam Aboulafia ..... 2014  
 David Palagyi ..... 2014  
 Dennis Neal Parr ..... 2014  
 Earl Thomas Peratt, Jr. .... 2014  
 David D. Semrau, DDS ..... 2014  
 Ray Tracy Teare ..... 2014  
 Milton Harry Boudov ..... 2013  
 Kenneth Jon Dorn ..... 2013  
 M. Mark Hoffer ..... 2013

(continued 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 - "Spring Fling"
April 17	Monthly Meeting Call for Memorial Day Prep Volunteers
May 15	Field Day at the Memorial Site - 0900 Monthly Meeting Nominating Committee Appointed Call for participants in the Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade
May 29	Field Day at the Memorial Site - 0900
May 31	Memorial Day Service - 1100 Submarine Memorial, West
June 19	Monthly Meeting - Annual "Steakfest" Call for nominations for 2020 Base Officers
July 4	113th Annual... Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade
July 17	LeRoy Stone Memorial Picnic Bunker 33, Seal Beach Weapons Station
August 21	Monthly Meeting - "Hawaii" Theme 2020 Base Officer Candidates Announced
September 18	ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Election of Officers
October 16	Monthly Meeting Annual Officer Installation Luncheon
November 20	Monthly Meeting - Thanksgiving Theme
December 18	Annual Christmas Luncheon at the Los Alamitos Golf Course



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
Joe L. Lopez, Jr.....	2002
Berry S. Yolken .....	2002
James E. Carter .....	1999
William F. Long .....	1999
Herbert J. "Bo" Bolton .....	1998
Kenneth E. Chunn.....	1998
Jack L. Herron .....	1996
Clifford Bernard Murr .....	1996
*Royal Harrison, Jr.....	1995
*Sterling F. Higgins .....	1995
*Robert Clair Koplin.....	1995
*Mark Maynard.....	1994
*William J. Dillon.....	1993
*Harold Staggs.....	1992



## E-Board Zoom Conference Minutes of Jan. 16, 2021

The Los Angeles-Pasadena Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., E-Board Zoom Conference was conducted on the morning of Saturday, January 16, 2021.

### In attendance:

- Dave Vanderveen, Base Commander
- Ed Barwick, Base Vice Commander
- Bill Moak, Secretary
- Herb "Bo" Bolton, Director
- Mike Swanson, Treasurer
- Sam Higa, Director
- Chuck Senior, Director
- Jeff Porteous, *Periscope* Editor
- "Willie" Williamson, District 6 Commander

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the Zoom Conference to order at 1005 hours. The minutes from the December meeting were then accepted via motion from Mike, seconded by Sam, and approved by voice vote.

### Treasurer's Financial Report: Mike Swanson

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

Checking	\$10,036.51
Savings	\$14,884.30
Cash On Hand	\$50.00
Uncleared Checks:	\$00.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,970.81</b>

All vendors have been paid up-to-date.

Income:	\$1,575.00
Expenses:	\$867.00

### Flower/Booster Club Additions:

Ken Dorn	\$100.00
Mike Varalyia	\$100.00

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Bill, seconded by Sam, and approved by voice vote. Mike made a comment wondering about the necessity of the base's financial details being shown in both the E-Board and General Meeting minutes within the *Periscope*. He suggested they need only appear in the E-Board minutes—then simply referred to as approved by the E-Board in the General Meeting.

### Memorial Report:

Due to Paul Riggs' absence, Dave reported no available update re: the Memorial site, but stated he would inspect the site, then coordinate with Paul on any needed items. Also covered was Dave's contact with Dave Bowman, Bremerton Base, who administers a similar memorial bricks project in Washington without any objection from the JAG there. Dave will endeavor to arrange a meeting with Gregg Smith, Weapons Station PAO, and our JAG to further discuss progress with memorial bricks. Said JAG had previously stopped any further action on our part, since fundraising is technically not permitted on federal property.

(concluded next page)

## A Piano on a Boat?

(Our old friend Bo Bolton brought this one to my attention. Thanks, Bo!—ed.)

From the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council Navy League of the U.S. website—posted 7/6/2013.



Photo courtesy of Steinway Piano Co.

*This Steinway piano spent 22 years (1961-1983) aboard the ballistic missile submarine USS Thomas A. Edison (SSBN-610), the only full-size piano ever installed aboard a submarine conducting nuclear deterrent patrols. Part of the artifact collection of the Naval Historical Center on the Washington Navy Yard, it's being temporarily loaned back to Steinway in return for a complete restoration. It is then scheduled to go on display this summer at the Steinway Company Museum in New York in an exhibit celebrating the 150 years of the famous piano company.*

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The only full-size piano ever installed aboard a submarine conducting nuclear deterrent patrols is scheduled to go on display this summer at the Steinway Company Museum in New York. The exhibit, celebrating 150 years of the famous piano company, is scheduled to display a different piano for each decade.

The Steinway Company felt that this piano was of huge importance because of its historical background and the interesting events that led to its placement on the boat.

(continued on next page)

## E-Board Meeting Minutes...

(concluded from previous page)

### Base Charitable Donation Plan:

Mike reported on the committee's review of charities submitted for consideration for 2021 donations from our base. Below are the recipients and funding amounts decided upon for this year:

USSVI Charitable Foundation	\$500.00
Submarine Memorial - West	\$250.00
STEP Program	\$750.00
Wounded Warrior Foundation	\$500.00
Fisher House Foundation	\$500.00
<b>Total for 2021</b>	<b>\$2,500.00</b>

The parameters for charitable consideration by the committee were discussed, Dave explaining that some general guidelines had been temporarily used, and that more specific ones would be further addressed and created. He also mentioned that such establishment was to be developed through experience gained via the 2020 donations. The acceptance of the donations stipulated was motioned by Bill, seconded by Mike, and approved by voice vote.

### USSVI 2021 Calendars:

Dave covered a request he'd received by a Parche Base member seeking info. on obtaining the new USSVI calendar. Chuck and Jeff indicated that instructions had been printed in both the *American Submariner* and our base newsletter, and that calendars could be procured through the USSVI Storekeeper, i.e. the USSVI website.

### Art Wilson's Funeral Service:

Dave passed along that the number of allowable subvet attendance slots for Art's funeral had been increased from six to eight, per Marilyn Senior. As of this date, Bo Bolton and Ed & Bonnie Barwick plan to attend. It was asked if any E-Board members wished to attend, and agreed that the same question would be asked of attendees at our General Meeting to follow. Ed agreed to coordinate any attendance activity, and asked for a noon, 1/17/2021, deadline so that any open slots could be returned for more friend/family member attendance. Dave commented that he understood any reluctance to attend, since each of us seems to fit the criteria for susceptibility to COVID infection. Sam then stated how contagious the virus is, discussing its transmission within his own family.

### Good of the Order:

Dave explained that his slow response to the Base Commander's Qualification Application was primarily due to his reservations about the current level of online security of the USSVI website. He indicated he is nearly finished, and would submit once site security was firmly established. He also reaffirmed the content of a POC e-mail concerning the Awards Manual available through the USSVI website, strongly suggesting referral to it when submitting award nominations.

There being no further items mentioned, Mike made a motion to adjourn, Ed seconded and the meeting was adjourned by voice vote at 1043 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bill Moak*

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI

## Piano on a Boat?

(continued from previous page)

"We thought it would be a point of interest. Someone contacted a dealer of the Steinway Company in Boston and told them about the piano. We felt that since there is a 150 years celebration and they are having a piano for each decade, we thought it would be very nice to have it on display," said John Patton, spokesman for Steinway & Sons.

The piano had been aboard USS *Thomas A. Edison* (SSBN-610) from the sub's construction in 1961 until it was put out of commission in December, 1983. Background information about the historic piano came from former crew members recalling it on the boat and discussing the events that led up to it being there with representatives of the Steinway Company.

Lt. John G. "Black Jack" Fletcher, the Blue Crew's assistant weapons officer with collateral duties as first lieutenant in charge of deck seamanship, remembered that "About a month before launching the *Edison*, the shipyard was preparing to weld shut the large hull openings left open in the pressure hull to move large equipment into the ship. One of these openings was topside centerline just forward of the sail."

Capt. Cy Young told him he wanted a piano aboard, and that Fletcher would be in charge of loading it. With that, the captain proceeded to New York City and struck a deal with the Steinway Company, buying the famous piano new for \$1,500.

(concluded 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 WRD Vic VanHorn  
Date: Wed., Dec. 9, 2020  
Subject: BOD results info. release

Ahoy Shipmates,

PLEASE send this attachment out for dissemination. The BOD has approved us, USSVI, as a standing partner with MVA as far as pursuing compensation for our troops who contracted agent orange. This is an ongoing pursuit and I will keep you updated from time to time. I know other bases have tried to do something similar, but MVA has the firepower and knowledge to take this on. There is no cost to our organization.

Regards,  
Vic VanHorn, WRD

From: John Dudas  
Sent: Sat, Dec 5, 2020 1:36 pm  
Subject: BOD results info release

Hi Vic,

I have attached a short letter that I would like to send out to all members as a VSO news item. Let me know if you approve or not.

It is apparent from the BOD meeting that this issue is not well understood by most of the organization and especially adds to the confusion of all of our members. We can finally speak as a unified group rather than a multitude of separate people duplicating their efforts to no avail.

I feel help is on the way.

You can also let MV Advocacy know of the results of the BOD meeting and can handle the interface with them. I will always be here to assist if needed.

Respectfully,  
John Dudas  
USSVI Veterans Service Officer

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

(continued on next page)



## Piano on a Boat?

*(concluded from previous page)*

“It was a beauty, nary a scratch on its finish,” said Fletcher, but he was concerned. He was not about to be the first one to mar the piano, and so to prevent this, a special stainless steel felt lined box was made for it.

Later, on a second shift (where questions were less likely to be asked), the piano box was quietly loaded through the hull opening down through the interior of the submarine, until it reached the forward bulkhead of the crew’s mess. There, the box was inconspicuously kept until the submarine was later closed up.

Once all of the crew’s mess area was completed, the piano was then removed from the box and strapped to the forward port bulkhead with stainless steel bands. Fortunately for Fletcher, no damage had occurred to the piano during its move.

All this covert effort resulted in a unique form of entertainment for the crew, particularly during the Mid-Patrol “Proms.”

Now part of the artifact collection of the Naval Historical Center, the piano is being loaned out in return for a complete restoration. As part of the restoration, the Steinway Company has agreed to clean and restore the piano to its previous working condition by restringing it. They will also refinish it to the original black lacquered finish that at some point had been removed.

“The Naval Historical Center welcomes the extensive restoration of this unique artifact by its original maker,” said Mark Wertheimer, Curator Branch.

## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

*(continued from previous page)*

From: USSVI POC: William C. Andrea <NJVC@USSVI.ORG>  
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020  
Subject: Agent Orange  
Submitted by: Vic VanHorn WRD, VA Rep.

ATTENTION:

USSVI IS STANDING WITH THE MVA in all matters pertaining to Agent Orange contracted by our submariners. In the past, members who filed with the VA were denied because of special operations as documented in logs. The MVA has asked us to stand with them in the fight for acceptance by the VA for any members stricken with Agent Orange, especially submarine sailors who put into various ports while on Westpac assignments. Included among these ports is: Guam, Phu Quac, and Viet Nam. All areas were contaminated with Agent Orange.

If you have been denied by the VA, please submit again for coverage and/or treatment. Let your Base Commander know when you have resubmitted so we can track it. This info. is needed to fight for your rights and treatment. Base Commander, please report monthly to your District Commander, and they in turn will report to their Regional Director, who will pass it along to me.

I ask for your help in this important mission.

High regards,  
Vic VanHorn  
Western Region Director/VA Rep. for USSVI

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

From: “USSVI POC: William C. Andrea” <NJVC@ussvi.org>  
Subject: USSVI VSO NEWS  
Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO

Useful articles to be found on the Military.com website:

What Tricare for Life Enrollees Should Know About Medicare Advantage Plans  
<https://bit.ly/3rlgfjQ>

Is the Commissary Surcharge Going to Increase?  
<https://bit.ly/2Kz2syS>

Research Delays Push Back VA Decision on New Agent Orange Conditions  
<https://bit.ly/38y8Den>

Many VA Benefits Will Be Expanding in 2021 Thanks to a New Law  
<https://bit.ly/2M7n4Pa>

Congress Passes End-of-Year Bill Impacting ‘Every Corner’ of the Veteran Community  
<https://bit.ly/3aEXw6f>

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## Marines to Help Fight Enemy Subs

Military.com, published Nov. 9, 2020

by Gina Harkins

Leathernecks will be getting in on the undersea fight north of Norway and in the Western Pacific, where the U.S. is concerned about increased submarine threats from Russia and China.

Marines will help fight submarines, Commandant Gen. David Berger announced in the November issue of the U.S. Naval Institute's *Proceedings* magazine.

With the right equipment, Marines ashore "could harass and potentially neutralize Russian submarines," Berger said, adding that the same concept could be used in the Western Pacific.

The undersea fight will be so critical in the High North area above Norway and in Asia-Pacific region that "the Marine Corps must be part of it," he added.

Expeditionary advanced bases, where small teams of Marines quickly set up temporary spots for land-based operations, would play a big role.

"By offering forward logistics and support, as well as sensor and strike capabilities, Marine expeditionary advanced bases [could make] a significant contribution to undersea warfare campaigns, including holding Chinese and Russian submarines at risk," Berger said.

Naval leaders have warned about a spike in Russian submarine activity. Satellite data also shows China has increased its nuclear submarine shipyard capacity, *USNI News* reported last month.

The Navy recently launched a new sub-hunting exercise called Black Widow in the North Atlantic, where Russian undersea activity has been on the rise. Earlier this year, the service also sent at least seven submarines to the Western Pacific in a big signal to China.

The Marine Corps also just wrapped up an island-hopping exercise in the

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## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

VA Now Has One Centralized Phone Number for all Customer Service

<https://bit.ly/3aDtbF6>

New Law Will Give Gold Star Families Free Park Access

<https://bit.ly/2WKtpCc>

The 66 Religious Symbols the VA Will Put on Tombstones

<https://bit.ly/3hg1fbD>

Your Military Paycheck Will Be Smaller in January—Here's Why:

<https://bit.ly/3heSH4V>

John Dudas

USSVI Veterans Service Officer

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*Shipmates and Ladies,*

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

*Dave*

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

Sent: Thursday, December 24, 2020

Subject: Blue Water / Agent Orange claim filing information

Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO on 12/24/2020

The USSVI has joined with the Military Veterans Advocacy inc. group (MVA) in a legal term called "STANDING" with their efforts to assist in getting the Agent Orange Presumptive benefits to all Blue Water Sailors who are eligible. The case for Submarines has been almost impossible due to the Deck Logs not containing any information for location of submarines who are on missions denoted as "Special Operations" (a security classification) and therefore not being able to prove they were actually within the twelve nautical mile territorial waters of Vietnam.

The MVA has the legal expertise and military and Federal Agency contacts to assist us in getting the Veterans Administration and the U.S. Navy to be able to verify that our submarines who were in the Vietnamese waters were actually there without releasing any "Special Operations" information. The MVA was one of the groups that sued the VA and won their case to get the Blue Water Act into Law and extend the old limit of Boots on the Ground out to the twelve mile water limit of Vietnam.

What the USSVI Submariners have to do at this point is to contact a local Veterans Service officer and get a claim submitted for any of the Presumptive Diseases you have been medically diagnosed with. You will need the help of a Veterans Service Officer to get through the VA Claims Process, so do not try and do it yourself. If any of you have already filed a claim and have received a denial Letter from the Veterans Administration, you need to submit an appeal immediately because the date of the denial letter starts a one-year process that will end your claim if you do not appeal it within that time frame.

There are 22 states that use the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers and they are easy to find online at...

<https://bit.ly/2KRrPvx>

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## Marines to Fight Subs

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Pacific, where it rapidly set up long-range fires in one spot before loading back into helicopters and heading to a new area.

Berger is leading the Marine Corps through a massive shift away from land-based missions in the Middle East and a return to naval operations, centered largely around the possibility of future conflict with China. His plan calls for shrinking the size of the force and ditching heavy equipment, such as tanks, to invest in long-range strike capabilities and unmanned systems.

Those are some of the systems Berger says will help Marines track—and potentially take out—enemy subs.

With the right investments, Marines at expeditionary advanced bases in Norway, Iceland and Greenland could create what the commandant referred to as an anti-submarine warfare fence that would bottle Russian submarines in the Norwegian Sea, keeping them out of the North Atlantic.

“The same concept could be applied to the First Island Chain in the western Pacific,” Berger wrote.

“Close, confined seas may offer more opportunities for [Marines] to sense and strike Chinese ships and submarines.”

Marine expeditionary advanced bases could also assist Navy aircraft that currently hunt for submarines, such as the P-8 Poseidon, providing “air defense and combat air patrol,” he said. The aircraft could stop off at forward-postured Marine bases until Navy ships move into position, he added.

Ultimately, the sea services need to be prepared for operations against both China and Russia, according to the commandant.

“China is today’s pacing threat,” he said. “[But] Russia’s submarine force is still superior in quality to China’s and much closer geographically to ours.”

Marines must be prepared to support fleet operations wherever they may occur, Berger said.

## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

Their website contains two links to locate your service officer. 1. by State and 2. By county. You can find a NACVSO right in your county for assistance. If your state is not covered by a County Veterans Service Officer, then the remaining states use their own State Veterans Service Officers which can be found by searching your State Veterans Service Division which are in the remaining 28 states.

There are currently 14 Presumptive Diseases established in the Agent Orange exposure list. They can be found at...

<https://bit.ly/3hhcj8f>

There are three more possible diseases that were added to this year's NDAA which the president gave the Veterans Administration thirty days to add as covered. They are Hypothyroidism, Bladder Cancer and Parkinsonism. If you have been diagnosed with any of these, then get your claim filed because they will soon be covered.

You as an individual do not have access to the classified records in the Navy System to prove your claim by yourself. It will take the cooperation of both our organizations to produce an outcome beneficial to the Submariners who need their claims approved by getting the U.S. Navy and the Veterans Administration to agree on the best method of providing the needed information so the VA can complete a successful claim.

Your very own Veterans Service Officer is your best choice for submitting a complete claim, and if you need help finding one, please contact me at this email: john.dudas.ssn571@gmail.com and I will assist you in contacting one close to your home.

Respectfully,  
John Dudas USSVI Veterans Service Officer

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

From: “USSVI POC: William C. Andrea” <NJVC@ussvi.org>  
Date: January 3, 2021  
Subject: Current American Submariner Magazine now online  
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

Shipmates,

The 2021 1st Quarter Edition of our *American Submariner* magazine is now posted on our national website.

Open the USSVI website at:

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

Log On with your Login Name and Password. Click on the blue “USSVI Magazine” button about half-way down the left-side menu. Click on the top left button “Current Edition”.

All the Best,  
Wayne Standerfer  
National Commander



## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

*(continued from previous page)*

*Shipmates and Ladies,*

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

*Please proceed with any plans you have to donate to our national organization's Charitable Foundation. Our Charitable Contributions Committee has received a nomination of the USSVI Charitable Foundation, which they will consider during their management of this year's L.A.-Pasadena Base Contributions Plan.*

*Dave*

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

Date: January 11, 2021

Subject: Charitable Foundation

Submitted by: Ken Earls, USSVCF Exec. Dir. & Treasurer

Over the past 12 months, your shipmates and supporters have made 165 donations on your Charitable Foundation website totaling \$7,619.05. Go to <https://bit.ly/3oFB0ym> to check it out.

We have many recurring, monthly and quarterly donations that will continue, some for more than two years. Some are for as little as \$7.50 per month or quarter, some for as much as \$100.00. We also have numerous recurring donations for \$10.00 or \$25.00 per month or quarter. All are truly appreciated and meaningful.

Even a monthly donation of \$5.00 per month adds up to \$60.00 per year. This is significant and helps your Charitable Foundation immensely! We want a majority of the USSVI to support your Charitable Foundation. An amount as little as \$5.00 per month is acceptable in almost every family budget.

Go to <https://bit.ly/3qgjLUH> and please donate. Make it a recurring donation for at least twelve months. You will feel good and your support will be significant!

Please support your Charitable Foundation.

Thank you for your generosity.

Ken Earls

Executive Director & Treasurer, Charitable Foundation

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

kenearls.ss@gmail.com

541-879-3038 - Home

928-308-4488 - Mobile

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*Shipmates and Ladies,*

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

*Dave*

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

Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021

Subject: USSVI 2021 Awards Manual now online

Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

Shipmates:

The 2021 USSVI Awards Manual is now posted online.

*(continued on next page)*

## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

To go to the manual, go to our website at...

<https://bit.ly/3bxc0p8>

...and click on the green “Documents” button. Next, click on the blue “Manuals” button.

Please familiarize yourself with the manual and the requirements when submitting any nominations for awards.

Thank you,  
Wayne Standerfer  
National Commander

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*Shipmates and Ladies,  
USSVI wants to BE SURE you all get this awards manual.  
Dave*

From: Michael Williamson <williess582@gmail.com>  
Date: Mon., Jan. 11, 2021  
Subject: Fwd: 2021 National Awards Manual

WD6 Base Commanders Group,

I know I have already sent this 2021 National Awards Manual as a POC. But National wants to make sure Base Commanders get it out to their bases.

/R  
Willie

Forwarded Message:  
From: <vmjvanhorn@aol.com>  
Date: Mon., Jan. 11, 2021  
Subject: Fwd: 2021 National Awards Manual

AHOY DC's.

PLEASE pass on the below info .to your BC's and have them send the attachment out to the membership. Appreciate it.

Regards,  
Vic  
WRD

Subject: 2021 National Awards Manual

Regional Directors,

I have attached a notice (*see below—ed.*) informing the membership the 2021 National Awards Manual is now posted in the “Awards” section of our National Website. Please forward it down through your Chain of Command with instructions that it is to be sent to all USSVI members.

Note: This notice is also being sent as a National Bulletin, but tell your DC's & BC's as a backup we need a notice by Chain of Command to insure all of our members receive it.

(continued on next page)

## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

Thank you,  
Wayne Standerfer  
National Commander

### 2021 USSVI National Award Nominations

Shipmates,

We have numerous 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.

I am asking you to please take the time to read the individual award requirements and submission procedures described in the 2021 USSVI Awards Manual and take the painless steps to recognize these Shipmates, Bases and Newsletters.

The Manual can be found by following this link.

[https://www.ussvi.org/Documents/Awards\\_Manuals\\_2021\\_USSVI\\_AWARDS\\_MANUAL.PDF](https://www.ussvi.org/Documents/Awards_Manuals_2021_USSVI_AWARDS_MANUAL.PDF)

### 2021 Awards Submission Timeline

STARTING DATE, FEBRUARY 1, 2021: All USSVI Members in good standing submit their Award nominations to the National Awards Committee Chairman John Stanford.

CLOSING DATE, APRIL 30, 2021:

All Award nominations (with exception of Newsletter Award) must be received by the National Awards Committee Chairman.

MAY 15, 2021: Deadline for submission of Newsletters for Newsletter of the Year Award.

All Award Nomination go to Awards Chairman Harold (Bill) Scott at:

Harold W. Scott  
National Awards Committee Chairman  
901 Busleigh Castle Way  
Pflugerville, TX 78660-7474

Please direct any questions to Bill at:  
hscottss242@gmail.com  
Phone – 512-826-8876

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

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*Shipmates and Ladies,  
Here's the latest on the Western Region Roundup for USSVI.  
Dave*

From: Gene Kellar <westernregionroundup@gmail.com>  
Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2021  
Subject: Western Region Roundup Reschedule

(continued on next page)

## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

*(continued from previous page)*

After much consultation with my Ad-hock committee and the hotel, it was decided to reschedule the Roundup from March 21-26, 2021 to October 17-22, 2021. We were able to keep the same rates and facilities for October. The website ([www.wrroundup.com](http://www.wrroundup.com)) has been updated to reflect this.

If you have made reservations at the hotel, you can...

1. Cancel them and make them later, or...

2. Tell me that want to change the dates of your reservation and I will have the hotel change them for you. I have been advised to do it this way to ensure you get the same rate. Be sure and tell me your existing dates and the new dates, to preclude any confusion.

Questions? Contact me.

Gene E. Kellar

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*Shipmates and Ladies,*

*We've lost VADM Kauderer, a long-time member of L.A.-Pasadena Base. If you're reluctant to go to the USSVI website to read his biography and extensive Navy service history, I've requested a PDF copy which I will send to you.*

*Info. to come regarding services.*

*Dave*

From: USSVI National Office <cto@ussvi.org>

Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Subject: Eternal Patrol Notice

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

Date Died: 1/19/2021

Date Born: 7/21/1931

Base: L.A.-Pasadena

Name: Kauderer, Bernard M.

Address: 1970 Silverleaf Circle, Apt 115 City, ST, Zip: Carlsbad, CA 92009-8418

Phone: 760-704-1346

E-mail: kaudererbm@aol.com

Next of Kin: Mickey

Relationship: Spouse

Joined USSVI: 1998

Boats Served on: DD-537, MSC-192, SS-270, SSBN-601, SSN-585, SSBN-631, SSN-596, AS-37

BIO: Qualified in submarines on the USS *Raton* (SS-270) in 1958 and was a VADM when he left the Navy.

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

To obtain and print out a Eternal Patrol Certificate, visit <http://www.ussvi.org> and click on the left side Button: USSVI

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## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(concluded from previous page)

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.

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*Shipmates and Ladies,*

*We have the sad news that Joe Koch has lost his wife, Mary Jane. They were married fifty-two years and she died last night. Joe has decided to hold services after the constraints associated with the COVID pandemic have lifted so their family can travel to Southern California.*

*Joe is available to take phone calls, but not in-person visits at this time. More information will be forwarded as his family's plans develop.*

*Dave*

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*Shipmates and Ladies,*

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

*Dave*

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

Date: January 23, 2021

Subject: USSVI 2021 Orlando Convention information

Submitted by: David Self

Shipmates,

As you are probably aware, the 2021 USSVI National Convention is being held at the Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, FL, from August 30, 2021 to September 4, 2021.

We sincerely hope you will plan to attend. Rosen Shingle Creek is a beautiful four-star hotel with every imaginary amenity.

To ensure the best possible experience for our SubVet members and their families, we are soliciting sponsor donations from a variety of local and national businesses, organizations and individuals.

The purpose of this letter is to give all USSVI Bases and Shipmates the opportunity to conveniently contribute to the convention and to give all USSVI Bases the opportunity to advertise in the 2021 Convention Magazine.

The "Sponsor Contributions" and "Magazine Ad Order" forms are online and can be accessed by going to the convention website.

Sponsor Contributions—contains all the information you need to make a contribution to the 2021 Convention:  
<https://bit.ly/36frvPc>

Magazine Ad Order—contains the required information you need to advertise in the 2021 Convention Magazine:  
<https://bit.ly/39hbpq4>

Thank you in advance for supporting your 2021 National Convention!

David Self

Editor - 2021 USSVI Convention Magazine

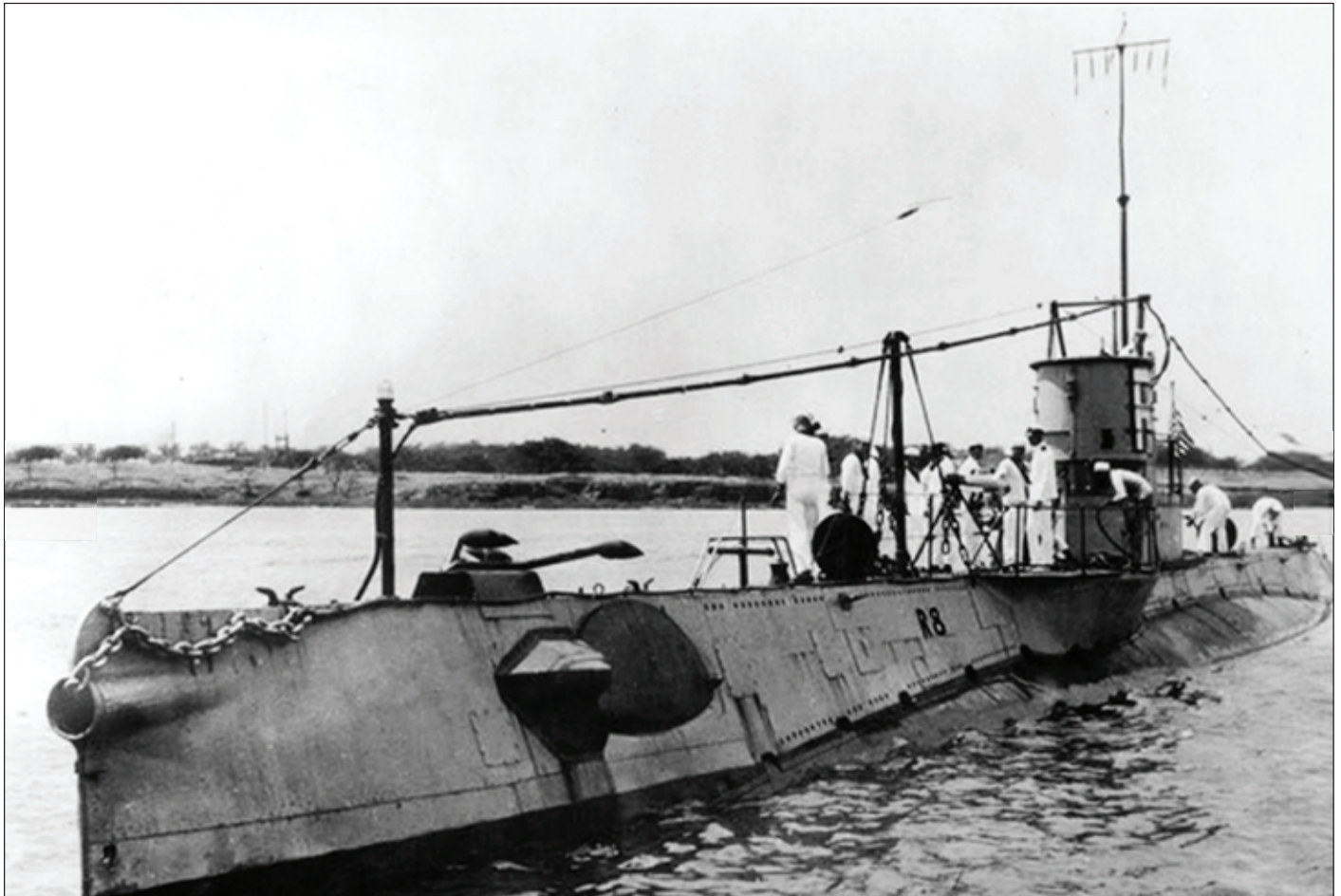
david@ssn688.com

(513) 519-3314

# World War One-Era American Submarine Discovered on Ocean Floor Off Cape May

(Reproduced from The Press of Atlantic City website - published December 11, 2020)

by Bill Barlow



*Historical image of the USS R-8. (U.S. Navy photo.)*

**C**APE MAY — With war looming on the horizon, and a new generation of German U-boats under construction, the United States military faced an urgent problem: how to sink a boat that's already underwater?

In August 1936, somewhere off the coast, the American military tested aerial bombardment on *R-8*, a Navy submarine that had recently been decommissioned.

The bombers missed their target, but four near-misses with 100-pound bombs were enough to send the sub to the bottom.

A salvage team now says they have found it.

Atlantic Wreck Salvage said Thursday they had located the wreck off the coast, roughly between Cape May and Ocean City, Maryland. Searching the waters from their vessel *D/V Tenacious* this fall, the team used side-scan

sonar data to confirm the wreck is the American sub. The sonar system allows the team to get a detailed picture of the wreck, not just a location from above.

"You're able to get an accurate measurement of the length, the height, the beam of the ship. You're able to see certain details, such as the conning tower," said Joe Mazraani, the captain and owner of *Tenacious*. "There are no other submarines of that size and in that area aside from the *R-8*."

The discovery came late in the season, so no dive team has yet visited the site, explained Jennifer Sellitti, who also was on the team that found the wreck. But based on the sonar data, the location and the historical record, they are convinced they found the *R-8* sitting upright on the ocean floor.

"The sonar data leaves little doubt that the *R-8* has been located," said Garry Kozak of GK Consulting, who analyzed

*(concluded on page 24)*

## Sunken R-8 Discovered Off Cape May

(concluded from page 23)

sonar data with the team. “The submarine in the image is the correct length, width and height. One set of prominent features of the R-class subs visible in the scan image is the spray rail configuration on the conning tower.”

A conning tower is the raised platform on a submarine or other vessel.

The R-8 was one of 27 R-class submarines commissioned by the Navy, according to information released by the team. They were fitted with deck guns and 21-inch torpedo tubes and were more than 180 feet long.

The ship was commissioned during World War I but was not completed until after Armistice. It was built in Massachusetts and served as part of the Pacific Fleet, participating in a search for missing pilots from an air race from California to Hawaii in 1927. In 1930, the sub was back on the East Coast, docked in Philadelphia.

It sank in the Navy Yard in February 1936 and was raised in April of that year before being decommissioned, taken into open water and bombed for target practice.

Six years later, the Navy hunted submarines in earnest, as German U-boats prowled off the coast. Between January and August of 1942, German torpedoes sunk a dozen or more ships off New Jersey, many near the mouth of the Delaware Bay.

The team on the *Tenacious* discovered one of the German submarines in 2012, believed to be the last U-boat in diveable waters in the North Atlantic, not far from Nantucket in Massachusetts.

Not long after that, the team began searching for R-8.

“We’ve been working on this project for many years,” Mazraani said. He and Sellitti are both criminal defense attorneys and partners in Atlantic Wreck Salvage. They are also partners in life, as Sellitti put it. They live in Millstone Township in Monmouth County.

She said she became fascinated with the mystery and drama of salvage operations and the history they explore as part of it.

“It’s really cool. I got hooked,” she said.

Tragedy is often part of that history, as people and ships were lost at sea due to storms, warfare or misadventure. But R-8 was an empty ship when it went down.

“In this case, there’s no sad story with it,” she said.

The sub seems intact and in good condition, from what the team could glean from the sonar images. She believes that means there was no direct hit during the target practice.

“The discovery of any new vessel is exciting,” said author and historian Eric Takakjian, as quoted in the announcement of the find. He worked with Mazraani on the search for years. “It appears from the sonar images that the site will reveal a very well-preserved example of an R-class submarine in existence anywhere. We are looking forward to conducting additional research and to diving the wreck in 2021.”

The team released little information about the location of the wreck or even the depth where it was found.

Home-ported in New Jersey, the D/V *Tenacious* worked out of Ocean City, Maryland while the search was underway. Formerly a fishing boat, Mazraani said it has been transformed into a dive vessel since he bought it a decade ago. Sellitti said the team was sometimes out for days at a time during the search.

Mazraani emphasized the work put into the discovery.

“This was always a team effort. This is not something that one person could have done,” he said.

*Members of the R-8 discovery team include Takakjian, Kozak, Ted Green, Mark Nix, Tom Packer, Christopher Ogden, Jack Lawniczuk, Joseph St. Amand, Sellitti and Mazraani.*



### Got an Old Glory that really is old?

If your U.S. flag has become damaged or tattered with age and is in need of proper disposal, just mail it to:

1. Battleship *Iowa* Security  
Flag Disposal  
250 South Harbor Blvd.  
San Pedro, CA 90731  
(Flags can be properly disposed of in person via a Dropbox at the *Iowa* as well.)
2. Dave Vanderveen - Flag Disposal  
6061 Broadstone Circle  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648



# SECNAV Names Future Vessels—including New *Virginia*-Class USS *Silversides*

(Reproduced from America's Navy website - January 15, 2021)

From Secretary of the Navy Public Affairs



Secretary of the Navy Kenneth J. Braithwaite announced Jan. 15 that the Navy will name three future vessels after ships steeped in naval history and two others after a Medal of Honor recipient and a Native American tribe.

To specifically honor the Silent Service, the future *Virginia*-class attack submarine USS *Silversides* (SSN-807) will carry the name of a WWII *Gato*-class submarine. The first *Silversides* (SS-236) completed 14 tours beneath the Pacific Ocean spanning the entire length of WWII. She inflicted heavy damage on enemy shipping, saved downed aviators, and even drew enemy fire to protect a fellow submarine. A second *Silversides* (SSN-679) was a *Sturgeon*-class submarine that served during the Cold War. This will be the third naval vessel to carry the name *Silversides*. The name comes from a small fish marked with a silvery stripe along each side of its body.

“Those who run silent and deep in this new attack submarine will inherit a proud legacy, and the capabilities to forge a strong future for our nation and our allies,” said Braithwaite.

Along with the ship names, Braithwaite also selected individuals who will be recognized as sponsors for several ships he recently named. Among them were:

Gail Fritsch will sponsor the future USS *Barb* (SSN-804).

Mimi Donnelly will sponsor the future USS *Tang* (SSN-805).

Michelle Rogeness will sponsor the future USS *Wahoo* (SSN-806).

Cindy Foggo will sponsor the future USS *Silversides* (SSN-807).

# LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES!

## The all-new USSVI 2021 Deluxe Submarine Wall Calendar is Here!

Order yours today! Just \$10.95+2.75 shipping. Use your credit card at [ussvinationalstorekeeper.com](http://ussvinationalstorekeeper.com) or send check or M.O. payable to USSVI to: Barry Commons, USSVI National Storekeeper, 2063 Main St. PMB 293 • Oakley, CA 94561, email: [NSK.USSVI@yahoo.com](mailto:NSK.USSVI@yahoo.com), phone: (925) 679-1744. All proceeds benefit USSVI operations, projects and services.



It's not just any film now playing at the Bijou—you're going to see a submarine picture!

Over the years, U.S. Navy submarines have played a prominent role in submersible-themed movies—America's cinematic take on all kinds of undersea stories and adventures. From chilling wartime dramas to madcap comedies, ghostly tales to Victorian fantasies, such submarines have always captured the imagination of moviegoers of all ages. Filmed appearances of actual submarines have likewise made such silver screen fiction more believable—and more fun. Whether popular or obscure, Golden Age or modern era, USSVI's 2021 Calendar celebrates all submarine movies, those our Navy's steel sharks helped get made, and others whose onscreen submarines represent the best of Hollywood miniature and special effects magic.

So snag those tickets, grab some popcorn, find your seat and standby to dive. The lights are coming down and the curtain's going up... Here come larger-than-life iron boats in a big-screen battle for your thrills and delight—that's entertainment!



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Sub Calendar  
in Years"—  
Don't Miss It!**

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**Mail your USSVI Boat Sponsorship Program check to:** P.O. Box 3870, Silverdale, WA 98398-3870

Please indicate BSP and the name of the sponsored boat or organization in the memo field of your check

- ✓ Reach potential new members by sending three annual subscriptions of *American Submariner* to the boat or organization of your choice
- ✓ First-time sponsors receive a Boat Sponsorship Patch
- ✓ All sponsors entered into the quarterly Boat Model Giveaway drawing (one entry per sponsorship) — a \$500 value

### SUBMARINES IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

USS <i>Columbia</i> (SSN-721)	USS <i>Montana</i> (SSN-794)
USS <i>Connecticut</i> (SSN-22)	USS <i>North Dakota</i> (SSN-784)
USS <i>Delaware</i> (SSN-791)	USS <i>Kentucky Blue</i> (SSBN-737)
USS <i>Greeneville</i> (SSN-772)	USS <i>Kentucky Gold</i> (SSBN-737)
USS <i>Helena</i> (SSN-725)	USS <i>Maine Blue</i> (SSBN-741)
USS <i>Hyman G. Rickover</i> (SSN-795)	

### Questions?

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





### **USS Flasher (SSN-613)**

*Taking water over the bow.  
The guys on the bridge sure  
seem to be enjoying the ride.*

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

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SEALION  
S-36  
S-26  
SHARK I  
PERCH  
S-27  
GRUNION  
S-39  
ARGONAUT  
AMBERJACK  
GRAMPUS  
TRITON  
PICKEREL  
GRENADIER  
RUNNER  
R-12  
GRAYLING  
POMPANO

CISCO  
S-44  
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CAPELIN  
SCORPION  
GRAYBACK  
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TULLIBEE  
GUDGEON  
HERRING  
GOLET  
S-28  
ROBALO  
FLIER

HARDER  
SEAWOLF  
DARTER  
SHARK II  
TANG  
ESCOLAR  
ALBACORE  
GROWLER  
SCAMP  
SWORDFISH  
BARBEL  
KETE  
TRIGGER  
SNOOK  
LAGARTO  
BONEFISH  
BULLHEAD

