

**Eternal Patrol  
Orders for Art Wilson**  
(Please See Page 12)

# THE PERISCOPE

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

Volume 17, Number 1 • January 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."*

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### Editor's Corner

Just as all the year-end wrap-up columns and editorials have said, it's certainly been a different and difficult year! Here's hoping you and yours are safe and well and looking forward to better things in 2021. Regardless of all the chaos and virtual-only meetings, our beloved base continued to grow and prosper in 2020—something to celebrate. As always, I'll be right here in the yeoman's shack if anyone needs me. —Jeff

## Navy's Next-Generation SSN(X) Attack Submarine Will Build Off *Columbia* Class

*(Reproduced from OSNI News website - originally posted November 2, 2020)*  
by Sam LaGrone



Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Missouri (SSN-780) on May 31, 2018. US Navy Photo.

The Navy's next attack submarine will feature technology in the *Columbia*-class program and be significantly larger than the current class of the *Virginia*-class attack submarines, the chief executive of BWX Technologies said on Monday as part of the company's third-quarter earnings call.

The head of the company that builds the nuclear reactors for the Navy's aircraft carriers and submarines said the follow-on to the *Virginia* SSN would be significantly larger than the current crop of attack boats.

"We do expect it will be a larger type of submarine, probably in the size class of the *Columbia*, but there's not much more to tell than that. But we're working with our Navy customer in what that would look like and how we could take that into production," Rex Geveden said.

*(concluded on page 7)*



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

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## From the Wardroom...



Dave Vanderveen,  
Base Commander

Shipmates and Ladies,

At the end of the year I usually enjoy thinking back through all the things which happened and am grateful most of those things were positive and pleasant. It helps me to look forward to the coming year, anticipating new and sometimes exciting things, and to mentally prepare for the inevitable disappointments and loss life will bring to us all. However, 2020 feels like a long patrol on which the atmosphere control system failed giving each of us a perpetual headache, the Forward Auxiliaryman had trouble remembering the sanitary tanks are supposed to be blown outboard not inboard, we ran out of groceries with two weeks to go, and the COB flipped out and started singing show tunes in the Attack Center. I will be happy to see this one end!

I do look forward to 2021 with hope that COVID-19 will no longer be the scourge it is today. The lives of many in our society can be protected with control of that disease, and our day-to-day lives and our economy can get back closer to normality. Until that happens, personal goals I have set and activities I have planned for the coming year are "on hold," so I'm anxious to see that 2021 will be a much better year than 2020 has been!

Los Angeles-Pasadena Base has had the excellent fortune to have welcomed several new members in 2020, bringing our membership total to 110. Although we have yet to meet personally, I see that each of our new members brings a level of interest and capability that will help us continue to thrive as a base. Sadly, two of our members departed on Eternal Patrol: Carl Terry and Art Wilson. Fortunately, despite the constraints caused by the pandemic, Carl's and Art's families were able to be with them when they passed.

Although the new year will be better, the first few months will likely see us working within the constraints driven by the pandemic. Consequently, we will plan our January and February meetings as teleconferences/videoconferences. Of course, the Committees charged with the base's work will continue performing as they have during the past year. The Committee which manages our base's charitable contributions will be working on their plan in the first quarter of the new year. If you are interested in supporting a particular veterans' or educational group, please let one of the base officers know so it can be included for the Committee's consideration.

I offer you my hope that each of us can enjoy health, happiness, and prosperity in 2021.

Happy New Year!

*Dave Vanderveen*

Commander

Los Angeles-Pasadena Base



## December Zoom Mtg. Sailing List

Ed Barwick  
 Herb "Bo" Bolton  
 Roger Dunham  
 Sam Higa  
 Joe Koch  
 Ed Kushins  
 Jack Mahan  
 Bill Moak  
 Bruce Neighbors  
 Jeff Porteous  
 Paul Riggs  
 Chuck Senior  
 Mike Swanson  
 Ray Teare  
 Dave Vanderveen  
 Ron Wagner  
 Dennis Walsh  
 Gary Wing



## General Minutes of December 19, 2020 Zoom Mtg.

Dave Vanderveen, Base Commander, opened the meeting at 1107 hrs., once again via Zoom video conference.

COB Ray Teare then led us in prayer with a benediction, followed by Dave's request for a moment of silence for our departed shipmates.

### Treasurer's Financial Report: Mike Swanson

The Treasurer's Report as of December 18, 2020 was read into the Minutes by Base Treasurer Mike Swanson:

Checking	\$10,322.21
Savings	\$14,884.18
Cash On Hand	\$50.00
Uncleared Checks:	\$00.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,256.39</b>

All vendors have been paid up-to-date.

Income:	\$1,197.00
Expenses:	\$796.00

### Flower/Booster Club Additions:

Ken Dorn	\$100.00
Jack & Marlene Mahan	\$15.00
Ed Kushins	\$110.00
Skip Loveless	\$115.00

A motion was made to accept the report; it was seconded and approved by voice vote.

### Memorial Report:

Dave commented on the recent growth of our base membership since the start of 2020. Ed Kushins, our newest member, gave a synopsis of his time served aboard *Flasher* from 1969-71, his responsibilities on the boat, and his work subsequent to separation from the Navy. He proudly indicated that his submarine service was the most memorable and influential period of his life. He gave props to his XO for the important impact he'd had on his life, particularly upon management positions post-service. Dave then emphasized how experience on submariness had created a strong camaraderie between all of us who served on the boats, whether diesel or nuke.

(concluded on next page)

Some readers will recall that our base recently made a significant charitable contribution to the STEP program in Orange County, a worthy and reputable organization which assists needy active duty military personnel and their families. Our own Sam Higa, who helped promote this connection for our base, checks in to The Periscope with the cheering news below:

## Tony Teravainen, CEO & Co-Founder of STEP, wins Veteran of the Year for San Diego County

All of us at *Support The Enlisted Project* want to offer our biggest congrats to our very own CEO. We work with Tony every day and see the literal sweat he has put into ensuring every military family we meet has what they need to thrive. From painting his own office and putting together furniture, to speaking to Congress in DC, Tony has been working hard to maximize resources while advocating for service members and veterans for two decades—after serving in the U.S. Navy for nine years himself.

We are proud to have him leading our team—still fighting for the American Dream for all who choose to serve.

Thank you to The Veterans Museum at Balboa Park for this honor.



PRIDE RUNS DEEP

## General Minutes of December 19, 2020 Zoom Mtg....

(concluded from previous page)

### Update on Dues:

It was noted that L.A.-Pasadena Base has a few members who have yet to pay their dues. Assurances have come from same, however, that payment is forthcoming. Dave shared that District 6 Commander “Willie” Williamson had related that a large number within the district have also not yet paid.

### January Meeting Plan:

Dave noted his disappointment at the cancellation of our annual Christmas Luncheon (replaced by this very Zoom meeting), as well as how our traditional January “Hobo Stew” now needed to become a Zoom video conference too.

### Good of the Order:

Dave mentioned an article in the Naval Institute’s *Proceedings* magazine regarding a major ongoing shipyard boat refit, and how significant material from the damaged *San Francisco* is being used for needed replacements, therefore combining two boats to become one. He speculated that perhaps the reconfigured boat will be redeployed as the *San Francisco*. Roger Dunham noted he had worked on the recovery of the *San Francisco*, and wondered if the CO had received any commendation for his success in bringing the boat back to port despite her serious damage, and for the number of lives saved as a result. Joe Koch mentioned the more likely scenario would be that the skipper had been relieved for dereliction of duty.

Joe Koch made a motion to adjourn; it was seconded by Jack Mahan and approved by voice vote, signaling the end of our meeting at 1141 hrs.

Submitted by,

**Bill Moak**

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI





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

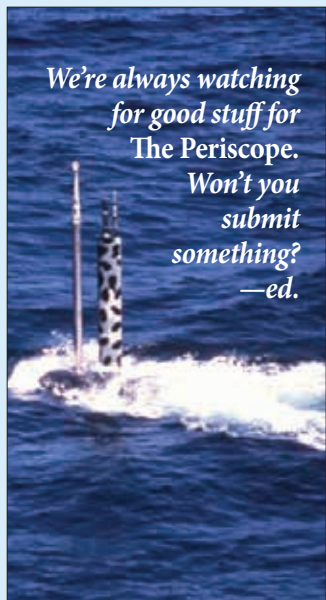
## Jan. Meeting

**Date:** Jan. 16, 2021

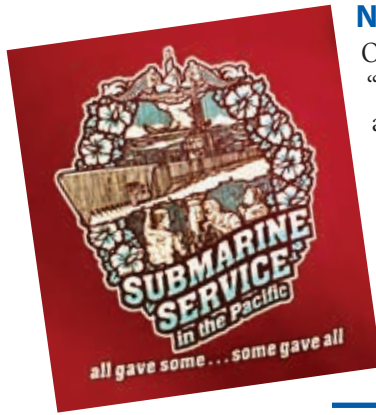
Again this month, our usual base meeting will be conducted as a Zoom video conference. This software for internet-based meetings has been working well for many groups wanting or needing to remain "face-to-face" during the global pandemic. See the Chapter News page for details. Hope to see your smiling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

## Base Birthdays in January...

- We hereby extend the happiest of wishes to all our L.A.-Pasadena Base birthday celebrants!
- Ron Levenson..... 1/3
  - Bob Schive..... 1/3
  - RJ Hansen..... 1/18
  - Ace Van Devender..... 1/20
  - Sam Higa..... 1/26
  - Larry Smith..... 1/30



## Ship's Store

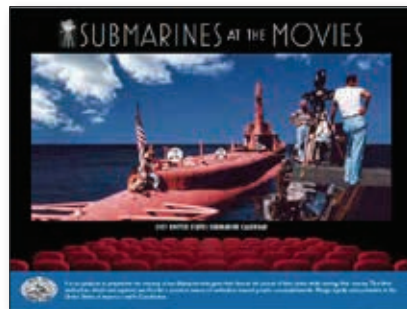


### New Reduced Price on T-Shirts!

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!

### 2021 Calendars Now Available!

Get yours through the USSVI website or see details on page 32. Don't miss your chance—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 • Jack & Marlene Mahan  
 Ed Kushins • Skip Loveless



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

## JANUARY TOLLING OF THE BOATS



USS SCORPION (SS-278)



USS ARGONAUT (SS-166)



USS SWORDFISH (SS-193)

### USS SCORPION (SS-278)

Lost on 5 January 1944 with the loss of 77 officers and men in the East China Sea, on her fourth war patrol. It is assumed she was sunk by a mine.

### USS ARGONAUT (SS-166)

Lost on 10 January 1943 with the loss of 105 officers and men off Rabaul, on her third war patrol. While attacking a convoy, *Argonaut* torpedoed a Jap destroyer who, along with two other destroyers, depth charged her. As she tried to surface, the destroyers sunk her by gunfire.

### USS SWORDFISH (SS-193)

Lost on 12 January 1945 with the loss of 89 officers and men somewhere near Okinawa, on her 13th war patrol. Probably was lost to a mine.

### USS S-36 (SS-141)

Lost on 20 January 1942 with no loss of life, on her second war patrol. She ran hard aground on the Taka Bakang Reef in Makassar Strait, Indonesia, and radioed for help. The entire crew was rescued by a Dutch ship after they scuttled her.

### USS S-26 (SS-131)

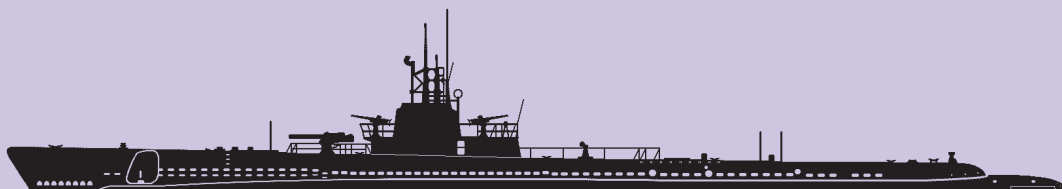
Lost on 24 January 1942 with the loss of 46 officers and men in the Gulf of Panama, on her second war patrol. She was rammed by the USS *PC-460* and sunk within seconds. The CO, XO and one lookout on the bridge were the only survivors.



USS S-36 (SS-141)



USS S-26 (SS-131)



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

## New Attack Boat to Build Off Columbia Class

(concluded from page 1)

“It has the moniker SSN(X) until it gets a class name, and there’s some thought, discussion and analysis. It would be the follow-on to the *Virginia* fast-attack submarine, and it would feather in sometime in the late 2030s.”

USNI News understands that Geveden was referring to the submarine’s diameter rather than its underwater displacement. The *Columbia* class is planned to displace about 20,000 tons—about 2,000 more than the current *Ohio* ballistic missile submarines. The current *Virginias* displace about 8,000 tons. The *Columbia*-class hulls are about 42-feet in diameter, while the *Virginias* are 36-feet wide.

A wider hull for submarines can improve characteristics like stealth, allowing ship designers to build in more sound-deadening technology and allow room to develop systems to increase a boat’s speed, but it is more expansive to build.

The comments are in line with remarks from Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday, who called for the development of a more aggressive attack submarine as a lynchpin of future fleet build-up.

“The advantage we have in the undersea is an advantage that we need to not only maintain, but we need to expand. I want to own the undersea for forever because I know that I can be really lethal from the undersea,” he said last month.

“When you think attack boat, you’re thinking, that can move around the timing and tempo of an operational commander’s need to deliver ordnance on target in a timely fashion. And so it’s got to be a fast sub as well.”

After the Cold War, the U.S. submarine fleet pivoted from the deep-diving, heavily armed *Seawolf* class of attack submarines to the *Virginia* class, which was optimized to perform signals intelligence and special operations missions in the littorals.

“Specifically, the Navy indicates that the next-generation attack submarine should be faster, stealthier, and able to carry more torpedoes than the *Virginia* class—similar to the *Seawolf*-class submarine,” the CBO said in late 2018.

The return to a more heavily armed, faster submarine is in line with the latest National Security Strategy that places Russia and China at the top of the threat list.

Geveden was optimistic on BWXT’s outlook for work to build reactors for the Navy’s carriers and submarines well into the future.

“The nuclear operations groups has really ramped up on the first *Columbia*, and we are having expectational performance on that program for the Navy customer, and we anticipate another order in the next multi-year pricing agreement,” he said.

“We also had an exceptional year of performance on aircraft carriers benefitting from the acceleration of the *Ford*-class and believe this program will continue for decades as the U.S.’s main force projection asset.”

While the company is bullish on the outlook for submarine work, it remains unclear at what rate the Navy will be buying them.

Like General Dynamics Electric Boat, which briefed investors last week, BWXT has not received a clear signal from the Navy that it would need to build submarines at the rate of three a year, in line with a call from Secretary of Defense Mark Esper as part of his Battle Force 2045 plan.

“In the previous shipbuilding plan, there were 48 fast attack submarines. In the current one, it went to 66. Esper said he was looking at something like 70 to 80 fast attack submarines in the fleet,” Geveden said.

“When we last discussed any capital needs around that, what we said was if there was a single year of a third *Virginia*, we could probably accommodate that without any additional buildout. We haven’t evaluated a permanent three-*Virginia* tempo, and we haven’t discussed any capital needs around that, but we would have to invest in that case.”





# Nazi Submarines Brought the Fight to Florida During WWII

They sank nearly 70 vessels along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts, including ships coming to and from Tampa, killing around 700 crewmen.

(Reproduced from the Tampa Daily Times website - published September 15, 2020)

by Paul Guzzo



This Tampa Daily Times headline tells of a Nazi submarine attack in New Orleans. [Times (1942)]

**T**AMPA The attack on Pearl Harbor was not the only time that World War II made it to the United States.

For nearly a year, Nazi U-boat submarines patrolled the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean, seeking to kill Americans, disrupt merchant shipping and strike fear in the hearts of U.S. citizens.

They succeeded in the first two, sinking nearly 70 vessels, including ships coming to and from Tampa, and killing an estimated 700 crewmen.

But it wasn't until years later that the public learned of the severity of the Nazi presence.

September marks the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII.

Using *Tampa Bay Times* archives, here is how the Nazis sought to bring terror to Florida:

Capt. Reinhard Hardegen was among the Nazis charged with leading the attacks for what the Germans dubbed "Operation Drumbeat," which spanned May 1942 through April 1943.

He told the *Times* in 1992 that he initially thought it was a foolhardy mission.

"We were expecting the worst," Hardegen, then 78, said. "But the Americans were totally unprepared. It was unbe-

(concluded on page 9)



## U-Boats in the Gulf in WWII

(concluded from page 8)

lievable how many ships we sank. We had our choice of targets.”

The submarines were so close to shore, he said, that his crew marveled at Coney Island’s Ferris wheel when it was lit up at night.

“It was something to see,” Hardegen said. “And then, farther down south, the resorts. The ships would be silhouetted against this and we could just fire away. It seemed too easy.”

The Nazis were so bold that they risked coming to shore. When some were arrested, they had movie tickets in their pockets.

“That is how close they got,” Rodney Kite-Powell of the Tampa Bay History Center said in 2014 when the museum featured an exhibit on Operation Drumbeat. “They came onto land.”

The Tampa Bay area was a prime target because it was home to three airfields where planes flew missions and because ships and tankers left Tampa’s port carrying aviation fuel and supplies.

Local waters were too shallow for the U-boats, so they attacked such vessels further out to sea. Overall, the Nazis sunk seven ships coming to or from the Tampa Bay area.

The attacks were close to the shores of Stuart.

Lillian Rudd Davisworth told the *Times* in 1991 that she lived 10 miles inland from that city’s Atlantic coast in 1942. She recalled thinking an earthquake was rattling her house.

“Things began to fall off tables, and our little dog started running around and barking,” she said. “We learned that a ship had been sunk by a German sub just south of Jupiter, and what we felt was shock waves from the torpedo.”

Paul F. Daniel Jr. was a druggist in Vero Beach at the time who also volunteered as a lookout for submarines.

“I saw more live warfare in Vero Beach the first four months of the war than I saw my entire duty in the Marine Air Corps in the Pacific Theater during the latter part of the war,” Daniel told the *Times* in 1991.

The SS *Thompson Lykes* of Tampa’s Lykes Steamship company was in the middle of the gulf when word of a sinking oil tanker due to a Nazi attack reached the crew via radio. They saved 18 survivors out of a crew of 40 and took them to New Orleans.

The U.S. government kept the severity of Operation

Drumbeat from reaching the public.

And some reporters who learned the truth were successfully coaxed by federal officials to downplay it.

“When someone would see an oil tanker burning off the coast of Louisiana or somewhere else, it would get reported, but not in a major way,” Kite-Powell said in 2014. “It would be treated like an isolated incident rather than part of a larger operation.”

Still, decades later, the federal government admitted the attacks likely impacted the environment.

Thousands of gallons of oil and gasoline from damaged petroleum tankers and other ships spilled into the water, the *Times* reported in 1990. “Many of the tar balls that still wash up on the beaches of Florida and the rest of the Southeast are the result of slow leakage from some tankers sunk by the German submarines,” the paper reported.

Daniel recalled an occasion when “the beach was black with oil. Once there were so many empty oil drums washing ashore, they had to bring out the high school seniors to help collect them and load them on a truck.”

Although Pearl Harbor marked the entrance of the United States into the war and remains a strong symbol, the U-boat attacks were militarily far more dangerous, University of Florida professor Michael J. Gannon, author of *Operation Drumbeat*, said in 1992.

“Looking back, though, Operation Drumbeat did not prove to be a successful German initiative,” Kite-Powell said. “There were never enough U-boats to pose a serious threat to American shipping, and difficulty in repairing and resupplying the German submarines continually hampered the German Navy’s efforts. Four out of the fifteen U-boats assigned to the Gulf were sunk and, unlike the merchant seamen, there were no survivors when a submarine sank. In all, 157 German crewmen lost their lives in the Gulf during World War II.”



# The Thinning Ranks of Lockwood's Iron Men

by Bob "Dex" Armstrong

*Dex's old columns are getting dusty now, but still couldn't be more true. This one was written before the existence of the new WWII memorial in Washington.—ed.*

Do you remember them? The old rascals with the red hash marks and rate chevrons? Five or six rows of damn meaningful ribbons.... Dolphins and a Combat Patrol pin?

Back in the days when those forged-in-combat, case-hardened bastards roamed the piers of submarine bases and butt-buffed barstools in establishments throughout the world which no self-respecting devil would be caught dead in.... We called them simply: the World War II guys.

They had not only "seen the elephant," they saddle-broke him and rode him all the way to Tokyo.

If you melted down all the gold hash marks and rates in their submarine service, you wouldn't have had enough material to have hammered out a Birmingham bus token.

Gold geedunk and good conduct medals were not a big defining area of consideration in the world of these red-blooded American giants. Men who had gone to sea in iron sharks and chewed the heart out of the Japanese naval war machine didn't require any additional credentials to reinforce their personal reputations.

The rollicking bastards had written their saga in a trail of rusting hulks and busted bar furniture from Hell to Hokaido.... And had sent an endless stream of oriental miscreants off to Buddha amid fire and the smell of burning Torpex. In 1945, they were the unquestioned hairy-chested jungle kings of the Pacific—Uncle Charlie's "Get-the-hell-out of my way" card-carrying rascals: Admiral Charles Lockwood's iron men.

In my day, they were the men who held the senior leadership positions. The proven and seasoned leadership of the submarine service. They were the "old men of the sea" to us. And all we wanted—all we aspired to be—was to be like them and worthy of their acceptance.

As we grew old they grew even older. I am not sure they mellowed, just grew long in the tooth and spent more and more time burying each other and cussing hearing loss and the pros and cons of Polygrip, Viagra and Metamucil.

Every year, some idiot jaybird would show up on their TV tube and tell them about this wonderful World War II Memorial that was to be built in their nation's capital. Then, mister TV man would disappear until next Groundhog Day.

There was the Tooth Fairy, the Easter Bunny, Santa Claus,

and the World War II Memorial. The "Eternal Patrol" sailing list grew longer and longer and no national recognition for the greatest generation. We built monuments to honor the participants of lesser "wars"—conflicts—"police actions" which never really ended. Ones we lost. But we just never got around to honoring the quiet generation that fought and won a worldwide hellraiser and handed this nation its last two fully Unconditional Surrenders against two of the most insidious regimes Satan ever gave birth to.

Old Gringo, Capt. Ned Beach, Capt. George Street number among those who got their final orders and couldn't wait. They are counted among those who will never see the Memorial built to honor them. Every day the list of eligible and deserving wearers of the Combat Pin shrinks.

Of the sins of man, indifference and ingratitude are the most difficult to survive. Bureaucratic indifference compounds the shameful nature of our national failure to extend to these very non-demanding warrior giants a long-overdue national handshake. Shame on us. Shame on us all.

What we do or not do will not change the record they wrote in valorous deeds and sublime self-sacrifice so many years ago. They will always be the men who went to sea and from below that sea struck their blows for freedom, liberty and our American way of life. Men who together shared bad air, depleted rations, and the deafening sounds of enemy depth charges. Men who wore sweat-soaked dungaree shirts and repeatedly pinned the tail on Hirohito's donkey.

No, they actually created their own memorial, the one signed by the little grinning buck-toothed monkeys on the deck of the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Harbor—a harbor totally absent of Nip war vessels because U.S. submarine-prearranged dates with Pacific Ocean floor oxidation had caused them to miss such war-ending festivities.

Many of the still-remaining World War II boat sailors will miss the ceremonies and hoopla attending what effettist artists and fawning politicians have created as a national thank-you. Again, shame on us.

Their true "thank you" will rest with history's accounting of what they did, why they did it, and their magnificent legacy passed down to newer members of the United States Submarine Service—and the appreciation of the yet unborn, who will mature in free air without the weight of the despot's heel on their necks.

They were iron men who took iron ships to sea and left

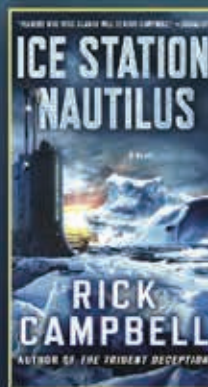
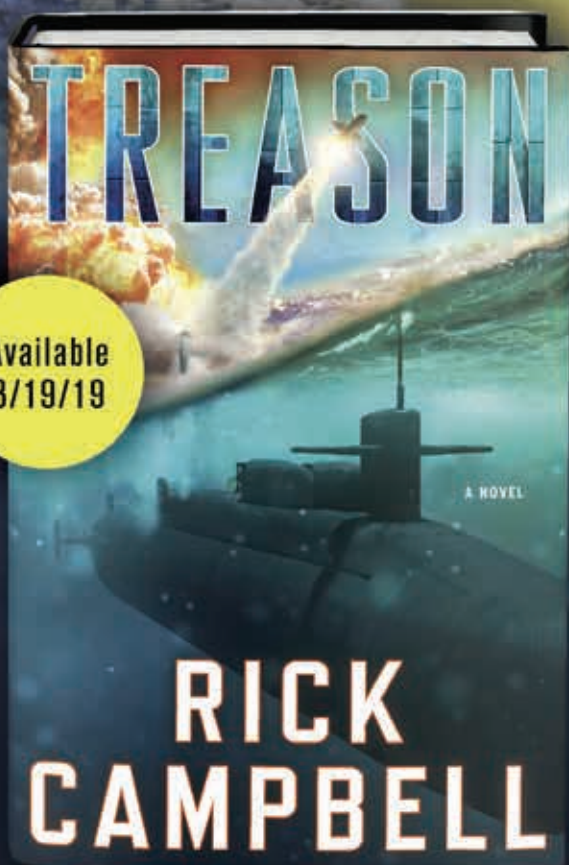


“Readers who miss Tom Clancy will devour Campbell.” —*Booklist*

COULD A MILITARY COUP LEAD TO ALL-OUT WAR?  
FIND OUT IN THE LATEST THRILLER FROM RICK CAMPBELL

# TREASON

NOW IN PAPERBACK!



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*

**TREASON** — RELEASES MARCH 19, 2019 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:

**Edward “Ed” Elliot Kushins**  
(LT-03SS; served ’68-’79)

Spouse: 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)

**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  
3417 S. Carolina Street  
San Pedro, CA 90731-6827  
cell: 310-347-2350  
bruceneighbors@gmail.com  
Qualified in 1969 on the  
USS *Ronquill* (SS-396)

**William “Greg” Moore**  
(E5-FT2SS; served ’92-’00)  
309 Avenida Del Mar, Apt. A  
San Clemente, CA 92672-1608  
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 Jan. 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.***

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### Art Wilson Departs on Eternal Patrol

Longtime L.A.-Pasadena Base and Holland Club member Arthur W. Wilson, Jr., age 92, passed away peaceably in his sleep and surrounded by his family at home on December 13, 2020. His old friend Harold Staggs, after being informed by Art’s daughter, let Marilyn Senior know so we could get word out via this notice. Many will remember Art manning the grill—often with his son—cooking the steaks for our annual “Steak Fry” summer meetings. Art will eventually be interred at Live Oaks Cemetery in Monrovia, where his predeceased wife also lies at rest. A service for Art will likely not be held until sometime in January because of COVID-related delays. More information, when forthcoming, will be shared here. Art served aboard USS *Requin* (AGSS-481) and USS *Irex* (SS-482).  
Sailor, Rest Your Oar.



**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
- 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

(Holland Club Roster, continued)

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 Dec. 19, 2020

The Los Angeles-Pasadena Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., E-Board Zoom Conference was conducted on the morning of Saturday, December 19, 2020.

### In attendance:

- Dave Vanderveen, Base Commander
- Bill Moak, Secretary
- Mike Swanson, Treasurer
- Ray Teare, COB
- Herb "Bo" Bolton, Director
- Sam Higa, Committee Chair
- Chuck Senior, Committee Chair
- Jeff Porteous, *Periscope* Editor

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the Zoom Conference to order at 1000 hours. A motion to accept the Minutes from the November meeting was made by Ray, seconded by Mike, and approved via voice vote.

### Treasurer's Financial Report: Mike Swanson

The Treasurer's Report as of December 18, 2020 was read into the Minutes by Base Treasurer Mike Swanson:

Checking	\$10,322.21
Savings	\$14,884.18
Cash On Hand	\$50.00
Uncleared Checks:	\$00.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,256.39</b>

All vendors have been paid up-to-date.

Income:	\$1,197.00
Expenses:	\$796.00

### Flower/Booster Club Additions:

Ken Dorn	\$100.00
Jack & Marlene Mahan	\$15.00
Ed Kushins	\$110.00
Skip Loveless	\$115.00

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Bill, seconded by Ray, and approved via voice vote.

### Memorial Report:

Dave explained the updated way of reporting to National at Silverdale. They have new staff, new procedures, etc. Expenses such as flag purchases and proper removal was also part of this discussion. The latter can be performed by Silverdale.

### New Member and Assorted Updates:

Ed Kushins has just joined us, increasing our membership to 110. Ed gave a brief synopsis of his time in and work subsequent to submarine service. Also, former member Ramon Aguilar has officially rejoined us after a lengthy absence. Finally, a

(concluded next page)



## New Submariners

(Another Facebook find from regular contributor Bill Moak.)

“Gentlemen, you represent the top 2% of The United States Navy and to be here with your butts planted in folding steel chairs in this magic carpet ride launching pad, you had to volunteer not once, but twice. Once to join the greatest navy there ever was or ever will be. And then you signed up for one of the most respected fraternal organizations in the history of naval warfare: The United States Submarine Force.

“The course completion certificate you will be given here today will serve as your adoption papers in a family that will embrace you for a lifetime and define you as a citizen of this fair republic who earned his rights by unselfish arduous service in a universally recognized tough, elite outfit.

“My old COB once told me to look on the back of my Dolphins.

‘Bob, you see an expiration date on your Dolphins?’

‘Nope, sure don’t.’

‘You know why?’

‘Not a clue.’

“Because you are just as much a member of this community today as you were the day they pinned those Dolphins on your wet dungaree shirt.

“Think about that a second... Let that sink in. The United States Submarine Force is a commitment you have made voluntarily, and have proven, through rigorous selection and the successful completion of this course, worthy of acceptance in an organization of special men having lifetime benefits.

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## E-Board Meeting Minutes...

(concluded from previous page)

prospective new recruit, John Hawkins, has only a step or two to complete for his membership with the base—Marilyn is now working to get this accomplished.

Dave brought up the fact that a previous offer by District 6 Commander “Willie” Williamson to include L.A.-Pasadena Base in his Zoom account proved not to work for our meetings. Therefore, Dave paid the \$150 required to expand our own Zoom account beyond the current forty-minute limitation, allowing our meetings to now be any length. (No more troublesome cutoffs!) Bill made a motion to reimburse Dave for this expense, and it was seconded by Chuck, and approved via voice vote.

It was also noted that only a few of our members have yet to pay their National Dues, but all these folks have indicated payments will be forthcoming and prior to deadline.

### January Meeting Plan:

Next month’s meeting will again take place via Zoom. Mike explained that the \$500 deposit for the Christmas Luncheon, 2020, will be carried over to 2021.

### Good of the Order:

Bill asked Dave if proper flag disposal was available through the *Iowa* Museum. Dave stated there is indeed a “Drop Box” for flags at the *Iowa*, but it’s staffed by a docent, and not an actual *Iowa* function. Sam indicated the American Legion and VFW will generally accept flags for proper disposal as well. Jeff said he will include further details in the *Periscope* when available. (*Note: Dave later checked in with the following mail-to options for proper flag disposal.—ed.*)

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

Jeff then covered his recent discussion with Bill Dillon, and asked that Mr. Dillon now receive regular hard copies of the *Periscope*. Bill agreed to add him to the U.S. mail distribution list.

Mike inquired about adding base officer contact information to the [socalsubvets.com](http://socalsubvets.com) website, wondering if posting such info. would present a problem to anyone in office. Since no concerns were raised, Mike then made a motion to post this information on the site; it was seconded by Bill and approved via voice vote.

Dave then suggested consideration be given to the National Charitable Foundation for our 2021 Base donations. It was then discussed that the foundation handles many charitable funds beyond scholarships. Jeff indicated the next *American Submariner* will actually cover this subject.

Mike then made a motion to adjourn; it was seconded by Ray, approved by all, and the meeting was adjourned at 1045 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bill Moak*

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI

## New Submariners

(continued from previous page)

“You are the latest, bright, shiny link in a continuous chain of American Submariners who have established a worldwide, fully justified reputation as the world’s toughest saltwater meateaters riding the finest steel sharks ever made.

“You stand on the threshold of an adventure... An unparalleled magic carpet ride that will exceed anything you can conjure up in your finest fantasy. What you are about to embark on is a trip that would make Jules Verne’s eyes pop out. I envy you. I am so damn jealous of your youthful enthusiasm, your evident pride in your accomplishment and the amazing journey you begin here today.

“Ah, the yellow brick road....

“Fathers will point you out in bus stations... ‘Son, you see that sailor over there?’ ‘Yessir.’ ‘He’s a submarine sailor. He’s tougher than a boarding house steak and rides submarines.’

“He rides submarines. Can you think of a prouder title? I saw a little kid riding a tricycle on the sidewalk in Groton. The kid was wearing a T-shirt that read, ‘My dad is a submariner.’ I can only think of one kid’s T-shirt that would top that... ‘My dad checks Meg Ryan for ticks.’

“Your voluntary selection of the Sub Force as your way to serve your nation has given you access to the seaports of the globe and a life where you will be able to fit all your worldly possessions in a seabag.

(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,*

*Perhaps you had an opportunity to meet Mr. Wittmer at a USSVI convention and would want to know he has passed on. As you can see in his biographical information below, he had some “unusual” World War II experiences!*

Dave

From: Gene Kellar <westernregionroundup@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020  
Subject: Paul Wittmer

Paul Wittmer passed away on November 12; below is the obit sent to me from his son Gary. Paul served in WWII on USS *Tinosa* (SS-282), making War Patrols 5-10, and was also on the prize crew of a captured *Sen Toku I-400*-class Japanese aircraft carrier submarine.

#### Obituary of Paul W. Wittmer

On 12 November, 2020, Wittmer, Paul W. (SubvetPaul) died at home as were his wishes. Survived by Eleanor, wife of 68 years, 3 children, 8 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren. He was active in two prominent Submarine Veteran organizations and served as a commander at least once. He wrote about all submarine veterans lost during WWII, making research trips to the National Archives for more than 30 years. He was presented with awards as a master researcher from the archives. He also published a compilation of stories from WWII crew members about their war patrols, *Big Anthology*. These were stories compiled over many years while he was editor of the *Tinosa Blatt*. His final publication was *Spyron*. It features Kit Parsons of Philippine guerrilla resistance fame: America’s spy who set up the coastal watch, supplied fighters using dedicated American subs, and rescued hundreds of civilians from certain death by Japanese forces.

His Honor Flight took place a few years ago when he was still able to stand. Recently he told me he could not count the number of depth charge attacks his boat, the *Tinosa*, had been through. “Too many to count,” he said. In hindsight, 78 years of PTSD kept under wraps can explain a lot for this family. Much of his military duty being sworn to secrecy, the same was true of his personal life. He was one of the few sailors chosen for the prize crew to bring the captured Japanese *Imperial-401* from Tokyo to Honolulu. (See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBx2Bu-jnOs> and also a Japanese film interview.) He was a submarine escape instructor in the 300’ water tower. He tested the Navy’s first re-breathers in the Bahamas. Then, of course, there were the stories of the doll from Japan and women in Perth, and Honolulu. Paul eloped with Eleanor in 1950, but held a surprise wedding ceremony at Good Shepherd Lutheran for their 50th wedding anniversary.

He was one of only two licensed professional engineers in the country who were grandfathered-in without needing to complete an engineering Bachelors degree, yet he spent years teaching new engineers how to do their jobs. Paul was the lead engineer for

(continued on next page)

## Submariners

(continued from previous page)

“You will go places in the oceans of the globe where damn few men have ever been... Where you will hear sounds and experience sensations known only to a minute fraction of the world’s population.

“You will serve in the most advanced technical submersible platforms known to man. Craft that serve as the farthest extended invisible bulwark of American defense.

“You will go from here to earn your Dolphins, representing your qualification and acceptance as a United States Submariner.

“I have previously mentioned how I envy you. I have had my opportunity to dance the saltwater fandango with the Goddess of the Main Induction. I have experienced the camaraderie that you will soon experience. I have heard the creak and groan of steel at depth, but nowhere near the depths the modern marvels you will ride, will achieve.

“You have opened the magic oyster that will change your life forever and that will serve as your ticket to adventure. You have achieved a status that will provide the only credentials required to sit at tables covered with beer glass rings and swap bullshit and sea stories with your undersea fraternity brothers while the sailors not associated with the life below sunshine penetration look on in wonder and envy.

“And, you will be forever embraced by the elite Sub Force family up to the point when the Great Commander issues you  
(continued on next page)

## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

the machines that made the first version of plastic Coke bottles. It was big as a house and spit out over 100 bottles per minute. He also worked for M&M candy factory. I remember the grocery bags full of candy he brought home with errors or blemishes on the packaging. I remember stories of a hunting trip deep the forests of Maine. I remember camping trips in the Smoky Mountains in a big surplus circus tent. I remember trips to Fire Island Beach, NY, and the time his sky blue VW Karmann Ghia was stolen. I remember that Dad always was deeply involved in one project or another. He made pastel portraits that still hang on the wall, was very involved in photography for a time, was an avid gardener, renovated a house in Connecticut, and made jewelry and bola ties for many years. He even tried to learn how to play the organ. We learned that he had no rhythm! He researched and published the family genealogy back to the 13th Century Holy Roman Empire, and collaborated with family in Germany and France who were doing the same. Then he enjoyed a very large family reunion in Baden-Württemberg.

Now he has departed on his Eternal Patrol.

To contact the family with condolences, send an email to:

[martacarp5@aol.com](mailto:martacarp5@aol.com)

In lieu of flowers, donations to Eleanor’s account may be made using Google Pay to gary-wittmer@gmail.com, or 5623298103. All donations will default directly to Mom’s account.

Dad dedicated his life (and savings) to researching and publishing his books. The books will remain available. I will forward orders to the publisher accordingly. For any of publications, *Submarine Veterans Lost, Volume 6* (\$200 or less), *Spyron* (\$40 or less), and *Big Anthology* (\$40 or less), please place your request to me at GaryWittmer@gmail.com. If you pre-pay, just let me know in your email. I say “or less” because the price from the publisher goes down for multiple printings.

Gary Wittmer

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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: November 22, 2020

Subject: Western Region Roundup - We’re Moving

Submitted by: Gene Kellar on 11/22/2020

This year the Western Region Roundup will be held at the Silver Legacy Resort Casino at the Row in Reno, NV March 21 -26, 2021.

The Western Region Roundup is a gathering of submariners to socialize, renew friendships, and discuss issues pertaining to USSVI with the Regional Commander and District Commanders. We chose Reno for its central location to the Western Region and it’s accessibility.

For details see our website: <https://bit.ly/33dO9G0>

Gene Kellar ,  
westernregionroundup@gmail.com

(continued on next page)



## Submariners

*(continued from previous page)*

your pine peacoat and assigns you to a boat moored at the Big Silver Pier in the Sky.

“A hand salute to the mothers who bore you. The parents who put the steel of honor and conviction in your spine and the patriotic values in your hearts. You are, by the road you have chosen to travel, a credit not only to your family, hometown, state and nation, but to yourselves.

“Let me assure you that your name will be listed alongside the best of the best. It will appear on a list containing both long ago legends and giants of the force and the names of the pioneers of nuclear propulsion. Lads, that is a damn fine group of men to be associated with.

“In conclusion, as you sit here today, there are lads in your hometown whose greatest thrill in life will be making a three-cushion shot at the local pool hall. They will never travel more than 300 miles from the hospital where they were born, and end up marrying some sweetheart whose ambition will begin and end with accumulating grocery store discount coupons and attending PTA spaghetti dinners.

“The closest those jaybirds will get to exotic faraway lands will be thumbing through the pages of a barbershop *National Geographic*.

“While your uncle Ralph is back home guarding his hen house with a rusty 20-gauge, you will be cruising the seas of the planet, hauling ordnance capable of causing urban

*(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: November 29, 2020

Subject: Charitable Foundation Bulletin

Submitted by: Ken Earls, USSVCF Exec. Dir & Treas on 11/29/2020

Remember your U.S Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation on this Giving Tuesday!

<https://bit.ly/37l3WUM>

When is Giving Tuesday? Giving Tuesday is always on the first Tuesday after Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

Please help the Charitable Foundation during this one day of Giving. Let's make this a memorial event for all Submarine Veterans in support of our Charitable Foundation. Let's make 2020 memorial in a positive manner on this one day.

Brotherhood Fund:

The US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation stands ready to support and assist all U.S. Submarine Veterans during any calamity that strikes. We are ready during any hurricane, fire, flood or pandemic to assist. Support has been given for over \$62,000 over the past several years to Submarine Veterans and their families.

Scholarship Fund:

We have now awarded over 660 scholarships to Submarine Veterans' children and grandchildren over the past 19 years. This is a total of over \$780,000 in awards given to these awardees during this period.

Kaps4Kids Fund:

Your Charitable Foundation has provided nearly \$20,000 in support of the Kaps4Kids program. This initiative has recognized and cheered hundreds of children suffering from a wide variety of afflictions with the result of brightening the lives of these children fighting for their lives.

Memorials and Museum Boats Funds:

The Charitable Foundation has supported a large number of Memorials and Museum Boats over the past 19 years totaling nearly \$200,000. This included the initial building costs as well as on-going maintenance and support.

Remember your U.S. Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation on this upcoming Giving Tuesday. We appreciate small, medium or large donations. We appreciate donations given once, over three months, six months or monthly for a full year. Our website provides for you to donate in a variety of methods using virtually any debit or credit card.

<https://bit.ly/2Jh0x1p>

Thank you for your generosity!

Ken Earls

Executive Director & Treasurer

Charitable Foundation

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

*(continued on next page)*

## Submariners

(concluded from previous page)

renewal within a 500-mile radius. You will be standing watch over weapons capable of sending entire populations off to hell in a flash of fire.

“The American submariner is the principle reason the bad guys rarely get to peek under Lady Liberty’s nightie and your kids don’t eat sushi at school.

“You have joined the family of America’s undersea warriors.

“Tomorrow when you shave, take a good look in the mirror, smile, and say to yourself...

“Mothers, lock up your daughters, there’s a new boatsailor in town.”

“Welcome aboard, sailor.”

**Ad Still Here by  
Popular Demand!**



## Just the Place for Killer MidRats!

Hey, know anyone on boats out of New London? Or, planning a visit to Groton yourself? Drop anchor at this local dive: **Wings’n’Pies** at 924 Route 12, just down the road from the Base’s Main Gate. Your editor enjoys firsthand knowledge that the pizzas here are some of the tastiest and sloppiest around. Forget those extra napkins—just wipe your greasy fingers on your shirt and they’ll think you’ve been hanging out with the A-Gang!

## 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>  
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020  
Subject: Website Security issue (Re-broadcast from 7-27-20)  
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

This bulletin is a re-broadcast bulletin from July 27 of this year, as some members apparently did not receive the original.

Shipmates,

If you have tried to log-in to our national website during the last few days you have encountered an error message telling you that the site is insecure. This appears to be just another glitch with the software that is required to be used on our present antiquated server.

We are having it worked on, but in the meantime, to log-on use the other option that appears at the bottom of whatever browser you are using to bypass the insecure message and you will be able to continue to our website. Since we are not using credit card transactions or displaying harmful personal information such as our members SS numbers, logging onto our website is not that much of a danger at this time.

The process to obtain and enable the necessary software that is needed for our new website has been moved to the top of our priority list and hopefully will not take much longer before completion.

Take care and stay safe,  
Wayne Standerfer  
National Commander

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*Shipmates and Ladies,*

*Here’s an update Willie Williamson has passed along about a shipmate, John Angel. I’ll emphasize Mike Patzius’ comment in his third paragraph. We’d like to know if you’re on the “Binnacle List.” I wouldn’t want to breach anyone’s privacy, so if there is information you pass to me (or anyone in base leadership) which you do not want made broadly known, please let us know what to withhold.*

*I wish continued good health for all of you (us)!*

Dave

From: Michael Williamson <williess582@gmail.com>  
Date: Monday, Nov. 30, 2020  
To: WD6 Base Commanders Group, and BONEFISH Base

This forwarded message from Mike Patzius is a fine example of keeping your base informed during this pandemic.

(continued on next page)

## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

To date this is the second shipmate I have heard of from our district to be diagnosed with COVID symptoms. Prayers and good thoughts for shipmate John Angel and his family.

V/R  
Willie

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Mike Patzius, Scamp Base Commander  
Date: Monday, Nov. 30, 2020  
Subject: Check in status for the base

All,

Hope all is going well and Thanksgiving was as enjoyable as can be expected. The Patzius household had an enjoyable time and Thanksgiving went about as expected for a pandemic.

I do have to report that one of our own, John Angel, is at Palomar Medical with COVID symptoms. I told him I would pass along this information. If you are the praying type, this would be something to pray about. If you are not the praying type, then think good thoughts for John and his family. I believe we should also do the same for the country and world so that this disease is eradicated.

If you are experiencing any of the COVID symptoms, err on the side of caution and get tested. If you need to be on the Binnacle List, please let me know. If you do not want your conditions to be reported on the Binnacle List, that's fine, we only report what information is provided.

We as a brotherhood can do a lot together if we know what is needed. USSVI has the Charitable Foundation that can help out as needed and so can the base. If anyone needs anything let us know.

Thanks,  
Mike

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*Shipmates and Ladies,*

*Willie Williamson sent this note regarding a Western Region leadership conference. There are some nuggets in it you may find interesting.*

*Dave*

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Michael Williamson <williess582@gmail.com>  
Date: Wed., Dec. 2, 2020  
Subject: USSVI WRD Zoom meeting 12/02/2020

Ahoy WD6 Base Commanders Group, and BONEFISH Base,

Tonight at 1900 Arizona (1800 San Bernardino) WRD Vic Van Horn held the monthly Western Region Zoom meeting. Guest was Gene Keller, who heads up the Western Region Roundup. He stated that he and representatives from CORVINA Base are more than a little worried about the COVID-19 virus and how the hotel will be handling things. They asked us to please not sign up until they get more information. Also, Gene stated he would like to form a committee of people to help run the Western Region Roundup from now on. Please contact Gene Keller if you are interested.

Vic informed everyone that End Of Year (EOY) reports are now due. Also, WD6 has one Base which has not paid their share of the RUST liability insurance. I have sent a message to the Base Commander and Treasurer regarding.

(continued on next page)



## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

On 12/05/2020, the National Board of Directors (BOD) is having their Bi-Monthly National Zoom Conference. Big item on the agenda is the new database. I hope I will have some good news to send to you afterward. It has been a long time coming.

Also, membership dues: Some bases have been reported as lagging behind. I had one shipmate ask me where to send his dues. I looked up his profile on Tools and gave him the Treasurer's information (I also sent it to the Treasurer).

USSVI.org was down tonight. But Tools was still working. You people with Tools may need to help out your base until we get the database back up.

National Conventions at Buffalo and Orlando are up in the air until the COVID-19 thing settles out.

I will have another message for you this Saturday after the National BOD Zoom Meeting.

Stay safe.

V/R,  
Willie

---

*Shipmates and Ladies,  
Willie's note below contains some nuggets of interest to many of us.  
Dave*

From: Michael Williamson <williess582@gmail.com>  
Date: Sat., Dec. 5, 2020  
Subject: USSVI National BOD Zoom meeting December 5, 2020

Ahoy WD6 Base Commanders Group, and Bonefish Base,

I just left the extensive BOD Zoom meeting and will not try to type out all my notes. But I will add a couple of items which I think are important enough to not wait for the official meeting minutes.

1. National website should be fully operational by late February.
2. National Treasurer Paul Hiser has COVID-19 and is hospitalized possibly 20-25 days. National Senior Vice Jon Jacques will update the EOY Report spreadsheet in less than 10 days (I know we already told you they are due). John Marchevitz will be assuming the role of Treasurer until Paul is able to resume. He has a new email address: markiewiczjohn@gmail.com
3. National Senior Vice Jon Jacques announced Chuck Senior to be voted to assume the *American Submariner* Magazine editorship. Assisted by Jeff Porteous and Phil Jaskoviac. T. Michael Bircumshaw will retain position as advertising editor. Chuck already assists, and handles the calendar, so it was a natural choice.
4. Membership dues brought up by National Secretary Steve Bell. National is relying on Base Commanders and Base Tools persons to update when dues are paid. Please do not sit on dues to the last minute. Fred Borgman has turned over the National Office to Dennis Nardone, so give them a break and get those dues collected and entered.
5. Not long ago a Base Commanders Qual Card was sent out. It is reported that National will ask for them soon as they want them back in three months.

The rest you can wait until the official meeting minutes are completed. Please stay safe this holiday season. Prayers and good thoughts for Paul Hiser and his fight with COVID-19.

V/R,  
Willie

(continued 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: December 5, 2020  
Subject: Groton Base Thanksgiving Caring and Sharing  
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

Shipmates,

Please copy and access this website link to see what the Groton Base is/and has been doing to support our Submarine Community.

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

The members of Groton Base continually work 24/7 in promoting USSVI and should be recognized for their abov-and-beyond efforts.

When playing the video, do not restrict your observance to the speakers, but also take notice of how Groton Base members have spent untold hours in upgrading (cleaning, painting, etc.) to improve the appearance (walls, deck, stage, etc.) of our building.

For our members who contributed both financial and manual labor support, shipmates, your contributions have not gone unnoticed.

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: Tues., Dec. 8, 2020  
Subject: New book from the authors of *Poopie Suits and Cowboy Boots*  
Submitted by: John E. Markiewicz, USSVCF President on 12/8/2020

### MORE SUB TALES

The USSV-CF is pleased to announce the arrival of Frank and Charles Hood's latest book, *More Sub Tales*, now on sale in both softbound and e-book versions on Amazon. (E-book versions for the Apple Store and the B&N Nook Store are coming soon.) The book has 50% more content than *Sub Tales* and will keep you or a gift recipient entertained for many hours. They guarantee that you will learn some aspects of submarine history that you did not previously know!

The book itself is 650 pages, with 33 stories and over 300 charts, maps, pictures, and other annotations. Here is the best link to get more info: <https://www.facebook.com/2hoodssubbook/photos/a.397659090673206/1084967055275736/>

PRICING: \$24.99 for the softbound book (nearly 2 inches thick)  
\$9.99 for the e-book

AVAILABILITY: Softbound book qualifies for Amazon Prime 2-day free shipping for Prime members; the Kindle version  
(continued on next page)

## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

is available for immediate download. Here are the links:

SOFTBOUND: [https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08PJPWLHY/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?dchild=1...](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08PJPWLHY/ref=sr_1_3?dchild=1...)

E-BOOK (KINDLE): [https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08PP2LLJC/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?dchild=1...](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08PP2LLJC/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1...)

CHARITABLE FOCUS: ALL PROFITS are donated to the USSVI Scholarship Fund. This amounts to a little more than \$5.00 per book, regardless of format. This will continue until the Hood Brothers reach their final goal of \$50,000. Right now, they have donated a little over \$41,000 to the cause.

Order your copy today! This has been a labor of love by the Hood Brothers and we think you will be very pleased with the results.

JOHN E. MARKIEWICZ  
PRESIDENT, USSV-CF

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*Shipmates and Ladies,*

*Here's some tough news about Nick Campanale, a shipmate from Base 51 who some of us have met through USSVI activities.*  
*Dave*

From: Michael Williamson <williess582@gmail.com>

Date: Tues., Dec. 8, 2020

Subject: Fwd: 9 DEC Luncheon cancelled; update on Shipmate Nick Campanale

WD6 Base Commanders Group & BONEFISH Base,

I have received sad news about our Shipmate Nick Campanale, who is Base Secretary for Base 51 in Las Vegas, Nevada. He is one of the reasons I became a dual-life member of Base 51. His selfless "can do" attitude has been a guiding light for many of us.

Please read Base Commander Richard Santomauro's note below, and say a kind prayer or good thought for Nick as he is on this tough road we must all travel someday.

V/R,  
Willie

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Richard Santomauro

Date: Mon., Dec. 7, 2020

Subject: 9 DEC Luncheon cancelled; update on Shipmate Nick Campanale

I received a call this evening from Shipmate Nick Campanale's wife, Marcy. Nick has transitioned to hospice at home and is surrounded by his loving family and his wife. I was able to talk to Nick and told him that he is loved by all of his Base 51 friends and shipmates. Through all of his medical issues this past year, Nick has always fought back; he's never taken a knee, and that, along with his good-natured smile and personality, is something I am so very thankful for. Nick is an inspiration to us all. Keep Shipmate Nick, Marcy and the entire Campanale family in your thoughts and prayers. If you care to send a note to Nick, please do so by e-mailing him. I'm sure Marcy will deliver it to him.

njcampanale@gmail.com

Due to the ongoing COVID threat, I have decided we will forego the 9 December luncheon at Charlie's Lakeside Casino. If you care to make a donation this year to the children of St. Judes Ranch for Children, please do so either directly or mail the check and we will consolidate and mail one from the Base 51 membership.

(concluded on next page)



## USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(concluded from previous page)

St. Jude's Ranch for Children  
Christina Vela  
100 St. Jude's Street  
Boulder City, NV 89005  
Phone: 702-294-7111  
Fax: 702-294-7191

I will reach out to the Exec. Board soon and will set a date to do a meeting via Zoom. Our Jan. meeting will be conducted via Zoom. I do not think it is wise to meet in person until we have a vaccine and know our membership will be safe.

Richard Santomauro  
LCDR USN (Ret.)  
CDR, SUBMARINE VETS BASE 51 LAS VEGAS  
10185 Emerald Sunset Court  
Las Vegas, NV 89148  
Regency Lot 48  
(702)970-7858 or (619)454-3872

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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: December 9, 2020  
Subject: USSVCF Bulletin  
Submitted by: Ken Earls, Exec. Dir. & Treas., USSVCF

Shipmates,

Planning for end-of-year charitable gifting? Keep in mind that this year is different in many ways. One difference is the CARES Act re-incentivizes charitable giving by creating a \$300 above-the-line deduction for qualified charitable contributions. This deduction is available to all taxpayers who take the Standard Deduction on their 2020 return.

Your U.S. Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation is a 501-C-3 Charitable Foundation and this CARES Act provision applies to any donation you give to it. Of course, we are not providing specific tax advice, but rather giving you additional information you can use.

This year you may be able to use the Standard Deduction and also take Charitable Donations on your 2020 Federal Income Tax Return—up to \$300.00 in donations.

Don't delay, act before the end of the year to get this special tax benefit.

Go to <https://bit.ly/2LhNVYd> to make your donation, or mail your check to:

USSVCF  
P.O. Box 3870  
Silverdale, WA 98383-3870

Thank you!

Ken Earls, Executive Director & Treasurer  
Charitable Foundation, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.  
kenearls.ss@gmail.com

## Armstrong - The Thinning Ranks...

(concluded from page 10)

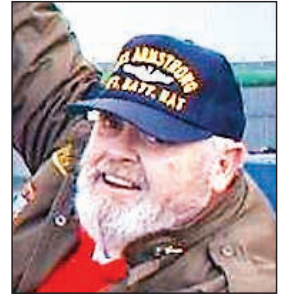
an unparalleled record of courage and duty, faithfully performed. A record that should serve to inspire every lad who enters his country's Navy in search of adventure in a service with an extremely proud heritage.

What they did makes what came before and since pale to bullshit by comparison. Somebody needed to say that... somebody who wore Dolphins and simply wanted to drink beer in their company, listen to their history, ride their boats and feel their handshakes of acceptance... They were, are, and ever will be heroes in every sense of the term. Their self-sacrifice was unparalleled in the annals of naval history.

So thanks from an old gray-haired sonuvabitch who danced with the Goddess of The Main Induction long after

you left her to us. She had holes in her stockings, strands of white hair and sagging tits, but she could still do that North Atlantic saltwater fandango and bounce around like a twenty-year-old fan dancer.

God Bless anyone who slammed hatches on the iron monsters who went to periscope depth and sent the saltwater valentines which kept me from ending up eating fish heads and rice, listening to Tokyo Rose bring me the news, and saying the Pledge of Allegiance to that goofy-looking meatball flag.



Keep a zero bubble... *Dex.*

## 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!





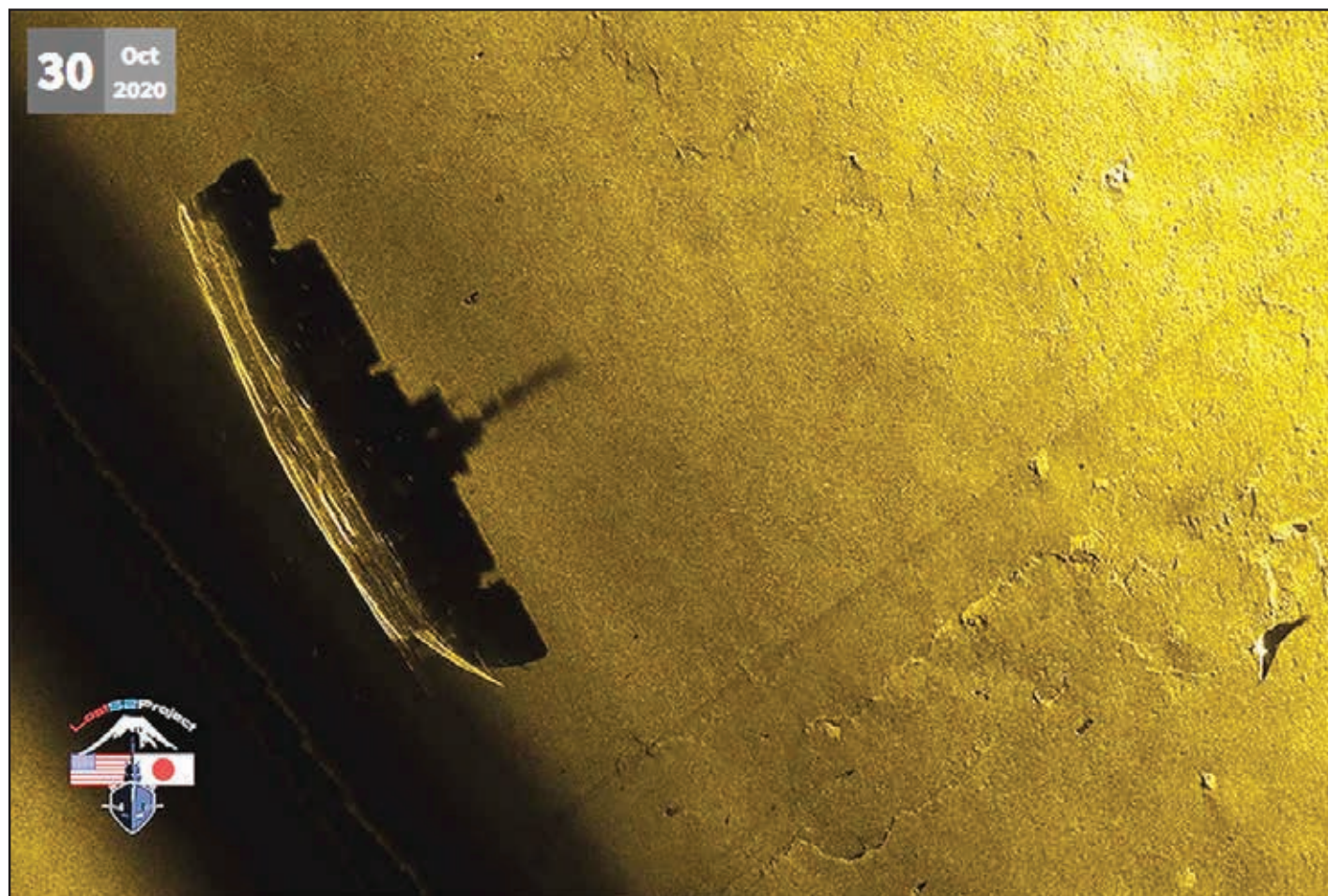
# Searching for Submarines: The Hunt for USS *Grayback*

*Tim Taylor Recalls the Trials and Tribulations of His Team's Attempt to Find the Sunken Remains of the Second World War U.S. Submarine Grayback*

(Reproduced from Explorers as published on the Geographical.co.uk website - October 30, 2020)

by Tim Taylor

(My thanks to our old friend Rick Cline for referring me to this article.—ed.)



Sonar image of the wreck of the USS *Grayback*.

It was June, 2019, and I was aboard the research vessel *Ocean Titan* with my Lost 52 expedition team, our regular home for what was our fourth season in the Pacific Ocean. *Ocean Titan* is a 68-metre ex-U.S. Navy/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration vessel now turned exploration support vessel. Our quest had us plying the waters of the East China Sea south of Okinawa, Japan, deploying a deep-water autonomous robot in search of the U.S. submarine *Grayback* (SS-208), lost on 26 February, 1944.

Before she was lost, the *Grayback* completed ten patrols, sinking nineteen enemy vessels for a total of more than 66,000 tons. She was ranked 20th of Second World War U.S. submarines by tonnage sunk, and was the 24th

top-scoring. The *Grayback* crew of eighty men received four Navy Citation Commendations and eight Battle Stars for Second World War service. Commanding Officer John Anderson Moore received three Navy Crosses.

Post-war Japanese records indicate that on 26 February, 1944, *Grayback* suffered damage when land-based Japanese naval aircraft attacked the ship in the Ryukyu Islands chain. That same day, it was recorded that an Imperial Japanese Navy carrier-based bomber spotted a submarine on the surface in the East China Sea and attacked. There was speculation that the submarine survived and was responsible for the sinking of the naval transport *Ceylon Maru* the next day.

(continued on page 27)



## Hunting for *Grayback*

(continued from page 26)



Map plotting the approximate location of the USS *Grayback*.

Detailed Japanese records show that the submarine was attacked twice, and in each case it was reported submerging. The first attack dropped two bombs at 07:23 local time and missed, one by 50 metres and the other by 20 metres. The second—presumed-fatal—attack was 1 hour and 21 minutes later, when the pilot reported a direct hit aft of the sail or conning tower. According to Japanese reports, the submarine “exploded and sank immediately,” but anti-submarine craft were called in to depth-charge the area, marked by a trail of bubbles, until a heavy oil slick welled up to the surface.

### THE RESEARCH

My journey began ten years ago with my first U.S. submarine discovery, USS *R-12* and its 42-man crew lost in WWII. I experienced first-hand the fact that these discoveries are about people, not machines. They’re links to generations of families who still feel a huge sense of loss. For the most part, these men disappeared into the un-

known. This became the genesis of my founding of the Lost 52 Project and its goal to help provide the fullest possible documentation of the lost U.S. WWII submarines and sailors. We’ve now discovered six lost submarines and a total of 288 men.

Preparation for our expedition began more than a year in advance. All facts and first-hand accounts were gathered, checked and rechecked. Many of our more substantial leads are found in the Imperial Japanese Navy war records, which we revisit and retranslate. Often this hasn’t been done since the U.S. Navy initially went through them just after the war.

Digging into the historical records, we discovered that the Japanese pilot’s log and narrative didn’t match the latitude and

longitude that were published in the official U.S. postwar translated records. Our retranslating procedures proved that uncovering a long-overlooked error can change everything. In the case of the *Grayback*, we found postwar records that had been transcribed with one number wrong. This one-digit error was repeated in every publication since 1946 and had resulted in moving the location of the attack more than 160 kilometres away from what was always considered its last known position. This new clue brought all of our additional research into focus. Using multiple witness accounts, we could now plot new locations along with the possible heading and speed of the *Grayback* when she was attacked. In this case equaling 170° over a distance of 17.5 kilometres between two key events. We had a new “X” to mark the center of our search, which matched up to the other historical data.

Search areas are created based on all the data collected, including historical weather patterns and ocean currents, U.S. and Japanese records, and any eyewitness accounts.

(continued on page 28)

## Hunting for *Grayback*

(continued from page 27)



*Research vessel Ocean Titan with AUV deployed in the water.*

The intentions of sailors, pilots and commanders are analysed in an effort to fill in the gaps. This is an exercise that attempts to get into the minds of men seventy-five years ago, in situations that can only be described and not truly understood.

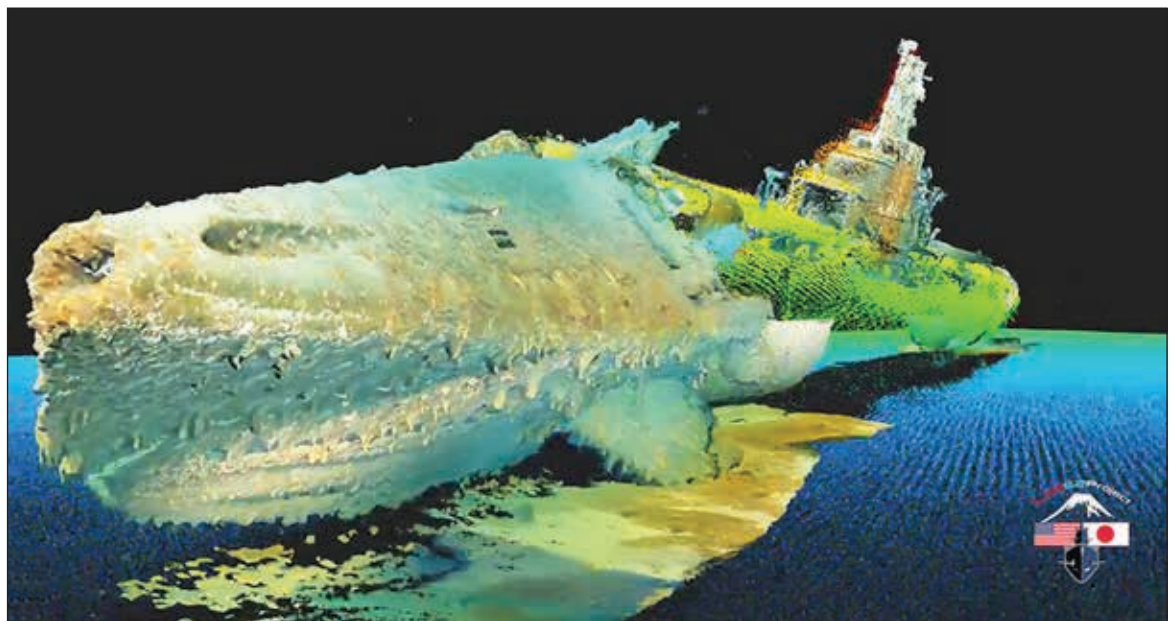
It's the nature of shipwreck searches that one never has a complete picture of where to search or enough time to complete the task. The expectation is that the curtain will be drawn on the effort at any time for any number of reasons, which might be partially or totally out of your control. The weather, the team's health, international per-

mits, funding, and of course reliable technology can all become obstacles.

**THE SEARCH**

Applying the latest technology to my work has always been a priority. Today, that means deploying autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs) to scan the ocean floor, and also applying new imagery-collection and -processing technology to generate highly accurate 3D point cloud data. This offers vast improvements over traditional deep-water archaeological methods.

On the ship, the primary robot deployed in our search was an AUV capable of scanning about 22 square kilometres in 24 hours, at depths of up to 4,500 meters. In the case of the *Grayback*, we had an area of more than 300 square kilometres to search. It became apparent at the end of Day Two on-site that we would only get the chance to search a fraction of that area. Due to equipment issues with our support ship and



*USS Grayback 4D-image model.*

(continued on page 29)



## Hunting for *Grayback*

(continued from page 28)



*Tim Taylor snaps a selfie as the ROV is deployed.*

technical difficulties with the AUV system, we were going to have to make some very difficult choices about where to carry out surveys.

The first survey box went off without an issue. Data collected and reviewed; no discovery made. Our second survey box didn't go so well. When the AUV was close to halfway through its 24-hour task of scanning the designated area, we called it back due to poor data reports. It wasn't collecting sonar images on one side, essentially leaving half of the search area unexplored. We needed to break the system down and search for the issue causing the problem.

This is a painstaking fix, test and repeat cycle that can last for days. The troubleshooting of a complex robotic system out at sea isn't uncommon, but there are no guarantees it will be successful. Thankfully, we were equipped with an abundance of spare parts, highly qualified technicians and a plan for this scenario. Even so, after twenty hours, multiple repairs and numerous in-water tests, the system still wasn't working. The decision was made to replace the entire cabling to the troubled sonar system—we would

simply have to wait for that work to be finished.

We didn't waste our downtime being idle, but began developing a Plan B. This involved using low-frequency multi-beam bathymetric data to narrow down potential targets. The plan was to target hybrid search grids and prioritise possible anomalies once the AUV was repaired. This low-frequency system is designed to scan mountains; small ships might only show as noise and can easily be confused with geological structures. It could work—or it could cost us even more time.

While the AUV issue was being resolved and Plan B was being implemented, another problem arose—the vessel's refrigeration system had failed. We would have to make a 48-hour trip to the port of Kitakyushu on the island of Kyushu to repair the freezers and it looked like it would affect our time on site. We now only had a few days left to make something happen. Before we could return to port, hard decisions needed to be made, and one of these had nothing to do with submarines.

(continued on page 30)



## Hunting for *Grayback*

(continued from page 29)

During WWII, submarines were granted the luxury of ice cream makers for the sake of morale. The *Ocean Titan's* cook had chosen to honor that tradition. While in Hawaii on the trans-Pacific trip to Japan, she had purchased a six-month supply of homemade ice cream from an exclusive creamery. With an all-hands call to the galley, spoons were issued and the crew made a gallant but ultimately futile effort to save what remained from being jettisoned overboard.

### THE SURPRISE

Thirty-six hours after repairs began, the AUV was ready for a full test dive. We were confident the repairs had been successful, so we opted to take a risk and carry out the test dive at two probable targets identified by Plan B. These were nothing more than minor anomalies in the patterns of low-frequency-sound-generated recordings and four hours later, we reviewed the data to find we hadn't been lucky. We had, however, been close. Two days later we discovered we had missed our target by just fifty meters—the

AUV had turned just before discovering the USS *Grayback*.

Our last dive day also brought complications. Obstacle avoidance is part of the AUV's programmed behavior, but it isn't a perfect solution to rough terrain. The AUV's avoidance system failed to function as programmed and it touched the ocean bottom. Typically, when the vehicle returns to the surface, the nose cone jettisons a line that's retrieved using a grapnel and used to haul the AUV aboard. This time, it jettisoned on impact with the bottom and the recovery line fouled the propeller, resulting in a vehicle shutdown. In the event that this happens, the system is programmed to drop a ballast weight and float to the surface.

It was a low moment. We had spent months on the ocean, the refrigeration system on the boat was in need of repair, the food supply in jeopardy, ice cream sacrificed to the sea and the AUV in need of service. Resigned to the fact that we would have to return to port and leave this location for the season, there was only one thing left to do—look at the

(concluded on page 31)

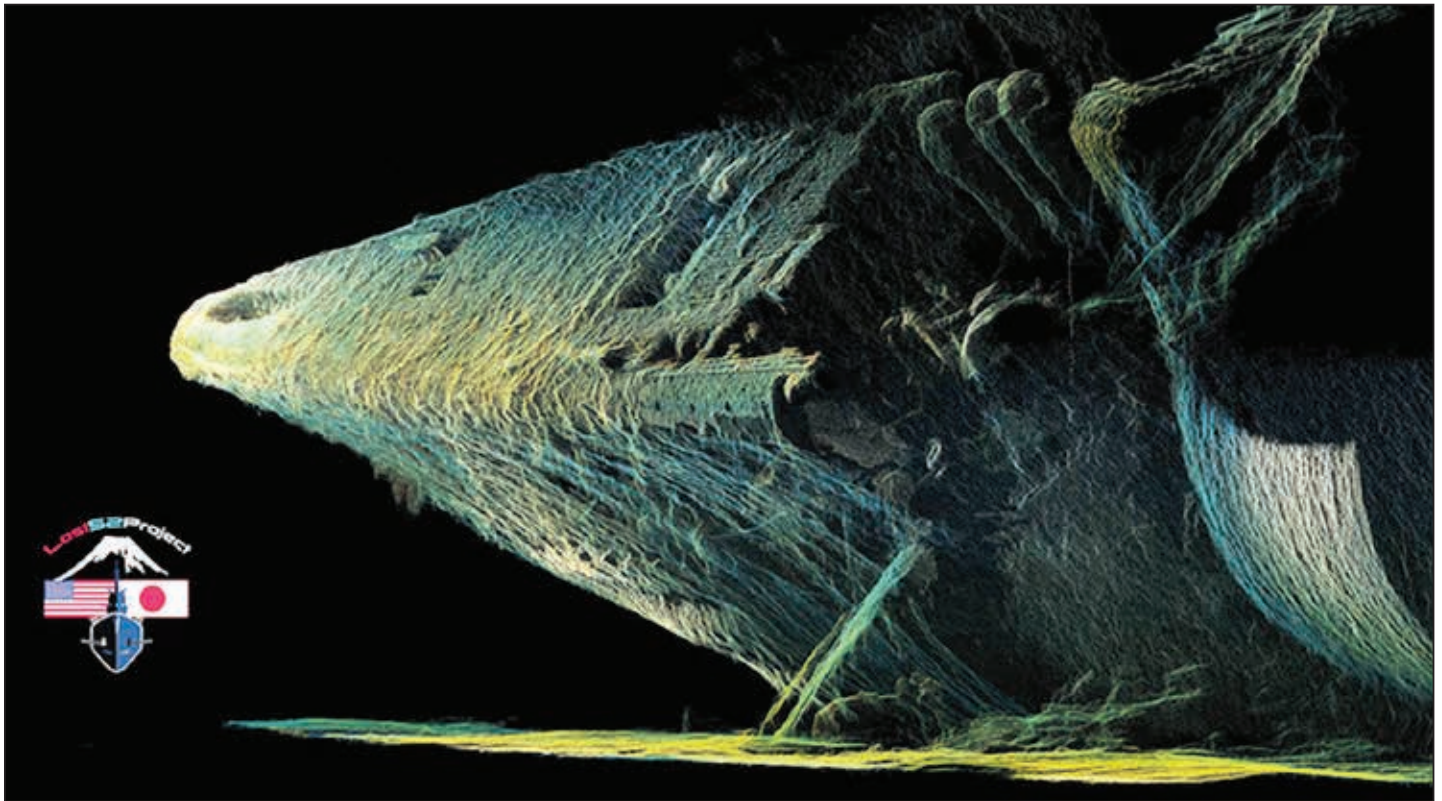


*USS Grayback plaque.*



## Hunting for *Grayback*

(concluded from page 30)



4D-image model of the bow of the USS *Grayback*.

data we had collected before the dive was cut short. The process of reviewing the data once it's downloaded from the vehicle is done for all to see on the large data screen in the AUV operations lab at the aft end of the ship. Lined with a couch and a half dozen chairs, it's an occasion for the crew to gather and see the fruits of their labor as it unfolds. The captain announces the event over the ship's PA system as: "Movie time!"

On the footage, the ocean floor is painted in a pattern similar to the way you might cut your lawn at home. The sonar scans play out in accelerated time on the screen in what's known as a "waterfall view." The scan on each side of the AUV is about 177 meters, making for a 354-meter-wide view. A 100-meter submarine would cover about a third of the screen.

We were a team ready to move on and lick our wounds, repair equipment and get on to the next location—a solemn roomful of tired, determined people watching line after line reveal the bottom of the ocean floor. We became conditioned to seeing those empty lines of data; an endless bottom of sand and rock.

Then, as we watched the final quarter of the final line of the aborted dive, a haunting shape scrolled into view,

revealing, in perfect silhouette the USS *Grayback*, upright with periscopes and conning tower as if still underway. Just like that, our day, our expedition, and our year turned completely around. The rest of the day was spent deploying and filming with the ROV. For the first time in seventy-six years, the USS *Grayback* became visible, in 430 meters of water in the East China Sea.

Before departing the site, we held a memorial service. The *Ocean Titan* stood watch above the gravesite of eighty brave sailors who had made the ultimate sacrifice. Saying a prayer and reading the names of each sailor, and ringing the ship's bell once for each man, reminded us all that our search had always been about people, not machines.

*Tim Taylor FRGS is an ocean explorer, founder of the Lost 52 Project and president/CEO of Tiburon Subsea Services, which specialises in underwater technology services. He is currently developing and advancing 4D modelling and autonomous underwater robotic applications. He's the recipient of an Explorers Club Citation of Merit and a Navy League of Brazil Medal of Honor and was made an Honorary Submariner by the Brazilian Navy for his discovery and ongoing work on the USS R-12. He currently resides in New York with his wife Christine Dennison FRGS and adopted husky, Ginger.*

[www.lost52project.org](http://www.lost52project.org) | [www.tiburonsubsea.com](http://www.tiburonsubsea.com)

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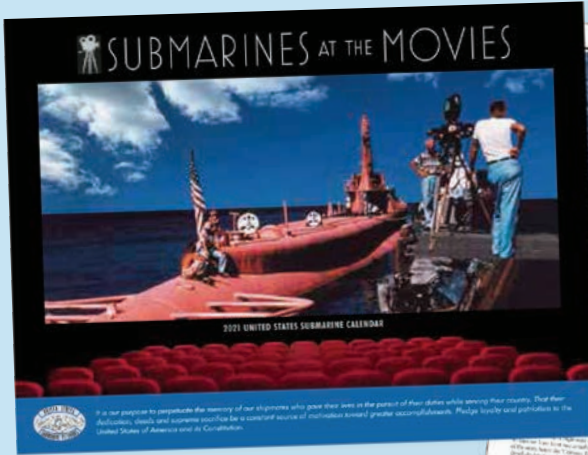
Order yours today! Just \$10.95+2.75 shipping. Use your credit card at [ussvinalstorekeeper.com](http://ussvinalstorekeeper.com) or send check or M.O. payable to USSVI to: Barry Commons, USSVI National Storekeeper, 2063 Main St. PMB 293 • Oakley, CA 94561, email: [NSK.USSVI@yahoo.com](mailto:NSK.USSVI@yahoo.com), 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!



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

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 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

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- ✓ 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)





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

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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		

