

LeRoy Stone Picnic
at Dennis Walsh's House!

THE PERISCOPE

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

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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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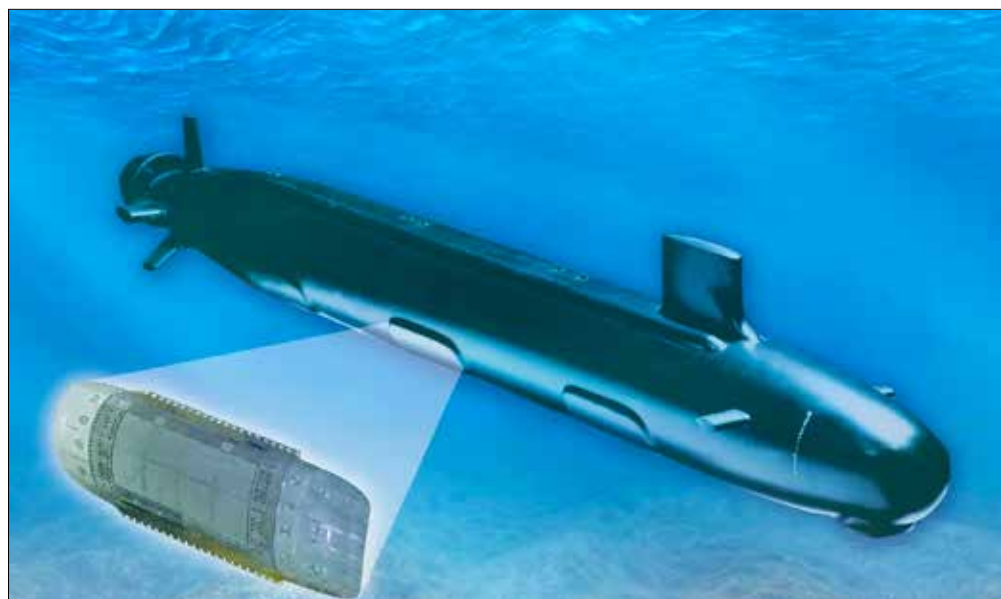
My USS Blueback (SS-581) r/c model sub parked on the surface & cruising at PD on 6/28.—Jeff



Limitless Upgrades: The Navy's Virginia-Class Submarine Has a Secret Weapon

(Reproduced from www.19fortyfive.com - Published May 13, 2025)

by Kris Osborne



Block IV Virginia-class submarine. (Image: Creative Commons.)

Key Points:

- The U.S. Navy's Virginia-class attack submarines have continuously advanced with each new "Block," introducing game-changing capabilities without requiring entirely new hull designs. Block III boats feature computerized fly-by-wire navigation, advanced bow sonars, improved stealth coatings, and enhanced special operations facilities.
- Block V submarines further extend capabilities by significantly increasing Tomahawk missile capacity with additional Virginia Payload Modules. Now, emerging wireless undersea drone technologies promise real-time data transmission, enabling instant threat detection and communication.
- Underwater acoustic and fiber-optic breakthroughs let unmanned underwater vehicles relay intelligence swiftly, redefining submarine warfare. These continuous advancements underscore the remarkable adaptability and limitless upgrade potential of the Virginia-class subs.

(continued on page 12)



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From the Wardroom...



Dave Vanderveen,
Base Commander

Shipmates and Ladies,

Happy Independence Day!

The 4th of July is among my favorite holidays partly because I enjoy summer, but mostly because I'm grateful for the good fortune to have been born in the United States of America. This holiday leads me to reflect on the hardships and sacrifices experienced by the founders of this nation; not just those who crafted and signed the Declaration of Independence, but also the farmers, shopkeepers, crafts people, educators and laborers who made up the new USA. It probably seems like a cliché, but they and the generations after them made it possible for those of us alive now to enjoy the opportunities we have. We're not a perfect nation, but we work to improve what's not right and I'm grateful for the result of all that work.

I hope you folks who live in SoCal can join us for the Fourth of July Parade in Huntington Beach. It's billed by the city as the largest Independence Day Parade west of the Mississippi River and draws 400,000+ people to the parade route. The waiting and marching make for a long day (and a three-mile walk) but it's a boatload of fun. If you want to be in the parade, join us at LA Fitness—Goldenwest Avenue south of Garfield Avenue—no later than 7:30 a.m. (*Note: see more info. on back page.—ed.*)

Roughly ten years ago, our SubVet Base built a plan to augment our WWII Submarine Memorial – West with commemorative bricks. Our original plan was to use that as a fundraising tool to support a museum we'd hoped to build adjacent to the Memorial. For many reasons, we learned in 2019 that the museum could not be developed. Soon after, the Department of Defense called "all stop" on our commemorative bricks project. A lot of work and polite communication with the Judge Advocate General's regional office staff and with the Weapons Station Command led to Captain Jessica O'Brien, Commanding Officer, to move our project toward approval. We had a design plan and sought a contractor to place the thirty bricks made before DoD's halt, but none wanted such a "small job." When I asked the command who among their approved contractors we could contact, we learned there was still no interest in doing the work. Jazmin Atencia, our liaison with the command, LCDR Tim Palik the base Public Works Officer, and Captain O'Brien arranged to install our bricks themselves as volunteers! That project was completed in late June, and I have circulated photographs and video of the finished work. We owe a debt of gratitude and our sincere thanks to Captain O'Brien, LCDR Palik, and Jazmin Atencia for completing a project we had begun to believe could never be done. Thank you!

As always, please apply your own good sense to protect your health and safety. We don't want to lose you!

Dave

Dave Vanderveen, Commander
Los Angeles-Pasadena Base



June General Meeting Sailing List

Susan Bolton
Darin Detwiler
Ken Dorn
Joe Dow
Sam Higa
Ron Jones
Bill Moak
David Semrau
Mike Swanson
Ray Teare
Dave Vanderveen
Stan Westrick



Minutes of June 21, 2025 General Meeting

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the General Meeting of the L.A.-Pasadena Base to order at the VFW Military Museum in Simi Valley, CA at 1120 hours. Dave then led the Pledge of Allegiance, following that with a request for a Moment of Silence for our departed shipmates.

Dave explained that last month's meeting Minutes had been published in the prior issue of the newsletter and that they had been reviewed, approved and accepted into the base record during the E-Board meeting. (*See E-Board Minutes elsewhere in this issue.—ed.*)

Treasurer's Report:

Dave explained that the Treasurer's Report had been reviewed, approved and accepted into the base record by the E-Board, and that to comply with our By-Laws asked Treasurer Sue Bolton to present the report to the General Members attending today. (*The same report appears in the E-Board Minutes elsewhere in this issue as usual.—ed.*)

Memorial Update:

Dave Vanderveen and Ron Jones visited the site yesterday and found that the Reflecting Pool had not been not drained, flags remained in the curb around the grass, and wreaths and stands were askew. The two completed an impromptu field day to resolve these issues. Next year we need to have a designated post-ceremony detail and schedule a field day the week after the event. It was then noted that the missing Georgia state flag had been located.

The Boy Scouts' behavior and supervision was discussed. It was also determined that the flag was not lowered to half-staff by the Navy; we'd done this before the ceremony. Also, for future events, we need to better coordinate with the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station Public Affairs person (Greg Smith).

It was decided to start forming a new Memorial Ceremony Committee and start designating people to be in charge of specific tasks for the 2026 event. A planning committee will also be formed for the 50th anniversary Memorial Day ceremony to be held in 2027.

The Memorial Bricks Project: Our brick-laying has been delayed due to a base visit by a Flag Officer. Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station workers and volunteers from the CO's staff will perform the installation at some point in June, with the CO agreeing to allow us to observe and photograph/video the work. Dave Vanderveen will communicate with the base leadership on June 23 to find out when said activity will take place. The ground looked to have been broken for the laying of the bricks. (*Since this meeting, the Bricks Project has been completed; see Dave's page 2 column plus page 21.—ed.*)

Membership Update:

Our membership is static; we still have 99 total members.

July 4th Huntington Beach Parade:

Bonefish Base will provide their submarine trailer for use in the parade as usual; David Semrau will also have his convertible. Remember to bring water and meet at the usual location by L.A. Fitness and McDonald's off Yorktown and Goldenwest by 7:30 a.m. on July 4th. Darin Detwiler will be communicating with the local Navy recruiting office; female lead recruiter TM1(SS) Jones had expressed interested in participating and/or helping.

(concluded on next page)

Binnacle List

• **Sam Aboulafia** continues diagnostic testing and chemo treatments. Mike Cailor visits often, but suffers from his own health issues. Both could use some cheerful communications:

Sam Aboulafia:
cell: 702-274-7256
email: Aboulafiasam@gmail.com

Mike Cailor:
cell: 813-585-7615
email: rmcgfish@gmail.com

• **Ed Arnold** doesn't get around like he used to and is looking at prostate surgery. Get in touch at:
cell: 714-797-9286
email: earnold725@aol.com

• **Marilyn Senior** may be home from physical therapy/rehab by the time you read this. If not, she will be soon:
cell: (310) 503-3915
email: marilyn.senior@gmail.com

**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!

General Meeting Minutes...

(concluded from previous page)

July 4th Bay Theater Film Screening Event:

The movie to be screened will be *The Hunt for Red October*. Doors will open at 4 p.m. on July 4th; the movie screens at 5 p.m. Darin Detwiler is facilitating a Q&A afterwards (at about 7:30 p.m.) with about four submarine veterans. He's also working to put together door prizes. We'll have our parade banner on hand for the screening, and the base will receive a cut of the ticket proceeds from the event. Please let Darin know if you plan to attend and if you want to be on the panel after the movie.

Tickets will be \$18—but we'll have a few free tickets reserved for the participants. Should you plan to attend, do consider wearing submarine veteran hats, shirts, vests, etc.

Upcoming Meeting Locations:

- **JULY:** Our Annual LeRoy Stone picnic, this year held again at Dennis Walsh's house in Brea. Please consider carpooling; bring your own meat for the BBQ as well as sides to share. Please bring tables, chairs, pop-up tent or other shade if possible. (See address and details on page 5.)
- **AUGUST:** Los Angeles County Fire Museum (16400 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower, CA 90706). www.lacountyfiremuseum.com. Optional lunch at a nearby restaurant afterwards. (Home of the famous Engine 51 and Squad 51 from TV's *Emergency!*)
- **SEPTEMBER:** Pot Luck at VFW Hall in Anaheim (805 E. Sycamore St., Anaheim, CA 92805). We'll work on the flags to inventory, inspect, and make sure they are clearly marked for next year's Memorial Day ceremony.
- **OCTOBER:** TBD - For the new officer installation we're considering the Radiant Brewery in Anaheim or the VFW Military Museum in Simi Valley.

Good of the Order:

Ron Jones shared about the annual flag retirement activities (3000 flags!) in Anaheim. Check out his YouTube videos. Search "BIK4LIF" for the account.

Joe Dow shared about submarine plaques that were previously at a bar in Avalon (Catalina). Darin Detwiler shared a similar story about seeing his own sub's plaque at the Yacht Club in Lahaina (Maui, Hawaii).

We applauded the fine work by Tony at the VFW Military Museum in Simi Valley.

50/50 Drawing: \$53 was donated—with \$26 won by Ray Teare, who donated it back to the General Fund.

There being no further business, Ray Teare motioned for adjournment; this was seconded by Mike Swanson and passed unanimously, ending the meeting at 1204 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Darin Detwiler

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI

LeRoy Stone Picnic at Dennis Walsh's House!

July Meeting

Date: July. 19, 2025

Our annual LeRoy Stone Memorial Picnic will be held in Dennis Walsh's backyard! Said yard sports a pool and two BBQs, so bring your trunks and something to grill and you're good to go! Remember the rest of the party is traditional potluck, so be sure to bring your own beverages, utensils and plates, plus a dish to share (see below). Also, folding tables if possible and definitely your own folding chair for the afternoon. Some are already bringing coolers, but additional coolers and/or ice would be helpful too—the more the merrier! Don't forget your sunscreen. See you there!

Location:
Dennis Walsh's House
925 Carlson Drive
Brea, CA 92821
(714) 257-0443 (cell)

Time:

• E-Board meets by Zoom in the days before the meeting, so only a brief on-site (By-Laws-required) general meeting will take place before picnic fun begins. Arrive after 10:00 a.m.—and come hungry!

Lunch: Potluck.

A-H — Salad/Vegetable/Snacks
I-R — Dessert/Snacks
S-Z — Rolls & Butter/Snacks

July Birthdays

Mike Kish 7/5
Beauchamp Tran..... 7/7
Chuck Senior..... 7/9
John Weisenberger 7/11
Larry T. Lovett 7/12
Susan Bolton 7/14
Bill Moak 7/14
M. Mark Hoffer..... 7/15
Scott Hultner 7/18
Michael Grubbs 7/21
Michael Polis 7/23
David Nates 7/29
Ron Wagner..... 7/30

Ship's Store

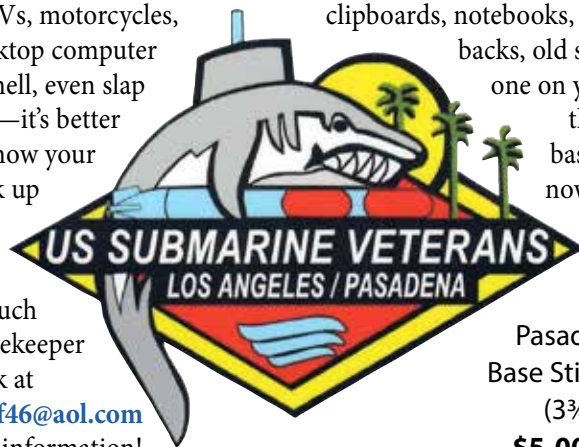


Clearance Price on T-Shirts!

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

L.A.-Pasadena Base Logo Stickers!

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



Get in touch with Storekeeper Bill Moak at golfnsurf46@aol.com for more information!

L.A.-Pasadena Base Sticker (3¾x5) **\$5.00 ea.**



USSVI Logo Patch (9¾x6¾) **\$11.00 ea.**



L.A.-Pasadena Base Patch (3¾x5) **\$5.00 ea.**



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

LOS ANGELES - PASADENA BASE

2025 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:

- Bill Dillon • Bud Fox • Bob Schieve • Ken Dorn (multiple) • Sally Moran
- Scott Hultner • Willie Williamson • Greg Paulson • Dennis Bott (multiple)
- Harold Staggs estate • Dave Vanderveen • Ed Barwick (multiple)
- Robert Cailor (multiple)



Booster Club and Flower Fund donations are welcome in any amount and are often also popular with 50/50 Drawing winners at our base meetings. Contributions can be made in cash or by check payable to L.A.-Pasadena Base of USSVI. Checks may also be sent to Sue Bolton at 13561 Iowa Street, Westminster, CA 92683-2637. To ensure proper credit, be sure to indicate Booster Club or Flower Fund on your check. Thanks!

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

JULY TOLLING OF THE BOATS



USS S-28 (SS-133)



USS ROBALO (SS-273)



USS GRUNION (SS-216)

USS S-28 (SS-133)

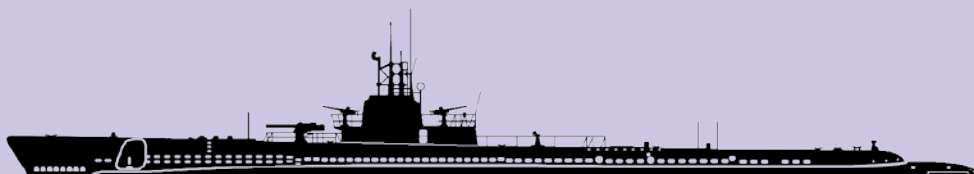
Lost on July 4, 1944 while conducting training exercises off Hawaii in coordination with the U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Reliance*. Contact was simply lost with S-28 after she submerged for a routine practice torpedo approach. No distress signal or explosion was ever forthcoming. Two days later, an oil slick appeared near her last known position. The exact cause of her loss remains a mystery to this day. Forty-nine crew members perished with the boat.

USS ROBALO (SS-273)

Lost on July 26, 1944 during her third war patrol when *Robalo* struck a mine off the east coast of Balabac Island in the Philippines. At least four men survived the sinking, swam ashore, and were captured and imprisoned by the Japanese. By some accounts, some of these men were killed in captivity, while others were lost when evacuated by a Japanese destroyer which was never heard from again, presumably sunk by Allied forces. In total, eighty-one officers and crew of the *Robalo* made the ultimate wartime sacrifice.

USS GRUNION (SS-216)

Lost on July 30, 1942 while on her first war patrol near Kiska Harbor, Alaska. *Grunion* radioed she sank two subchasers and damaged a third, but it was revealed in recent years that she had also tangled with an armed merchant ship and didn't survive the encounter. Though not absolutely certain, current theory suggests—supported by a Japanese eyewitness and recent underwater photographic evidence—that structural damage from her own circular torpedo run together with jammed dive planes had combined to put *Grunion* on the bottom. This evidence came to light when *Grunion*'s mangled remains were identified in the Bering Sea in 2007 off the Aleutian Island of Kiska. Her entire crew of seventy officers and men were lost.



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

China's New 12,125-Ton Sub Raises Alarms: This Underwater Beast Could Change the Global Naval Power Balance

China's unveiling of the Type 094A nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, equipped with advanced stealth features and long-range missiles, marks a significant escalation in global military capabilities, raising concerns about the shifting balance of power in underwater warfare.

(Reproduced from www.sustainability-times.com - Published May 7, 2025.)

by Noah Bennett



Illustration of China's Type 094A nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine patrolling the ocean. (AI-generated. Credit: Ideogram.)

- **The Type 094A submarine enhances China's strategic "nuclear triad" with its advanced stealth features and long-range missile capabilities.**
- **Equipped with quieter propeller technologies, it significantly reduces acoustic signatures, improving undetected operation in contested waters.**
- **The vessel boasts both nuclear and conventional weapons, including high-speed Yu-6 torpedoes for anti-submarine warfare capabilities.**
- **A crew of 120 to 140 personnel covers all operational domains, ensuring continuous at-sea deterrence patrols as part of China's naval strategy.**

The unveiling of China's Type 094A nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine offers a glimpse into the advanced military capabilities being developed by the nation. This formidable vessel plays a crucial role in China's strategic

"nuclear triad" and exemplifies the growing technological prowess of its navy. With enhanced stealth features and powerful long-range missiles, the Type 094A represents a significant leap in underwater warfare technology. As the world closely observes these developments, understanding the intricacies of such submarines becomes essential for grasping the evolving dynamics of global military power.

Ballistic Missile Submarines: Silent and Lethal

Ballistic missile submarines, like the Type 094A, are designed with stealth as a top priority. Powered by nuclear reactors, these submarines do not require external oxygen or frequent refueling, allowing them to remain submerged and undetected for extended periods. This ability to stay hidden in the depths of the ocean is crucial for conducting large-scale nuclear strikes if necessary. The Type 094A is equipped with 12 JL-2 ballistic missiles, each capable of carrying nuclear warheads with a range of 4,350 miles, sufficient to reach the northeastern United States.

U.S. Navy Commissions Fast-Attack Submarine USS *Iowa*; Features Tomahawk Missiles, Deep-Dive Capability

The U.S. Navy formally commissioned its latest Virginia-class fast attack submarine, USS Iowa (SSN-797), during a ceremony in Connecticut.

(Reproduced from <https://www.republicworld.com/defence/global-defence-news> - Published April 18, 2025.)

by Yuvraj Tyagi



USS Iowa (SSN-797). (U.S. Navy photo.)

Connecticut, USA – The U.S. Navy officially commissioned its newest *Virginia*-class fast attack submarine, USS *Iowa* (SSN-797), in a formal ceremony held Saturday at the General Dynamics Electric Boat shipyard. This 377-foot nuclear-powered vessel represents the cutting edge of America's undersea warfare capabilities, joining the fleet with advanced systems tailored for both deep-sea dominance and special operations. Navy leaders hailed the commissioning as a “critical step forward” in maintaining U.S. maritime supremacy amid mounting global tensions.

Constructed under the *Virginia*-class program, *Iowa* incorporates modular design principles, allowing rapid mission reconfiguration, alongside an expansive lock-in/lock-out chamber to support elite special operations forces. Powered by a nuclear propulsion system that requires no refueling throughout its service life, the submarine can exceed speeds of 25 knots and dive beyond 800 feet. Designed to be silent yet deadly, *Iowa* is armed with Tomahawk cruise missiles and heavyweight torpedoes.

The New *Virginia*-class Sub Boasts Advanced Strike Capabilities

Navy Secretary John Phelan, speaking at the commissioning event, called the vessel a symbol of 21st-century warfare. “Where battleships once ruled the seas, it is the silent strength of submarines that provides our Navy with an unmatched strategic advantage,” he said. The commissioning marks the first time since World War II that a Navy warship bears the name *Iowa*, honoring both the state and the historic legacy of the battleship *Iowa* (BB-61).

Admiral Daryl Caudle, commander of U.S. Fleet Forces, underscored the role of the submarine's crew in transforming the high-tech platform into a combat-ready warship. “It is the fearless warriors before me that turn this piece of metal into a warship designed to decisively win our nation's battles,” Caudle stated. The vessel carries a crew of 135 sailors and will operate across vast maritime theaters as a mobile platform for intelligence, strike, and surveillance.

(concluded on page 10)

Philippine Fisherman Capture Underwater Chinese Drones

(Reproduced from <https://www.msn.com> - Published April, 2025.)

by AFP New Service



Five underwater drones found by Philippine fishermen were capable of gathering information that could aid in “underwater warfare,” the country’s military says. (Ted ALJIBE photo.)

Five underwater drones found by Philippine fishermen were capable of gathering information that could aid in “underwater warfare,” the country’s military said Tuesday, noting at least one had relayed a signal to China.

The revelation follows months of confrontations between the Philippines and China in the disputed South China Sea, and comes as Manila prepares for large-scale military exercises with treaty ally the United States this month.

The drones were discovered between 2022 and 2024 in locations “important strategically in the defense and the security not only of the country but for international maritime navigation,” Philippine military officials told reporters at a briefing on Tuesday.

Their data collection served purposes “beyond navigation,” according to Rear Admiral Roy Vincent Trinidad, who said the information could be used for “underwater warfare,” detecting threats and testing weaponry below the surface.

(concluded on page 10)

Virginia-Class USS *Iowa* Commissioned

(concluded from page 8)

Iowa Joins The U.S. Fleet as the Silent Spearhead of 21st-Century Naval Dominance

Commander Gregory Coy, commanding officer of USS *Iowa*, described the commissioning as a shared achievement for the crew, builders, and the people of the Hawkeye State. “This is your submarine,” Coy said, addressing the audience of Navy leaders, shipbuilders, and veterans. As *Iowa* prepares to embark on its maiden operations, the vessel is expected to uphold the highest standards of readiness and strategic impact.

According to the Navy, fast attack submarines like *Iowa* are designed to carry out a wide range of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-ship operations, intelligence gathering, reconnaissance, mine warfare, and support to special operations. The *Virginia* class’ ability to launch unmanned undersea vehicles further adds to its operational versatility. As geopolitical flashpoints intensify from the Indo-Pacific to the Mediterranean, the commissioning of *Iowa* underscores Washington’s emphasis on undersea deterrence.

USS *Iowa*’s Advanced Reactor System Allows Uninterrupted Global Patrols Without the Need For Refuelling

The U.S. Navy has steadily accelerated construction and commissioning timelines for the *Virginia*-class submarines, with *Iowa* being one of several new boats designed to maintain American dominance below the waves. Analysts believe submarines like *Iowa* will play a pivotal role in deterring China’s growing naval assertiveness and Russia’s Arctic ambitions. Its stealth profile, long-range firepower, and global reach position it as a silent sentinel in contested waters.

The commissioning ceremony concluded with the traditional order to “man our ship and bring her to life,” followed by the crew rushing aboard to begin formal operations. Family members and local dignitaries from Iowa were present to witness the event, many expressing pride in the vessel that will now carry their state’s name across global battlefields. As one naval officer remarked during the ceremony, “The battleship era may be over, but with *Iowa*, the spirit of steel and resolve still sail strong.”

Catch of the Day: Philippine Fishermen Bring Up Five Chinese Underwater Drones

(concluded from page 9)

While declining to definitively identify the drones’ origin, Trinidad noted that several bore Chinese markings, while at least one had relayed a signal to China.

“Based on the technical study of the forensics of the SIM card (found on one of the five drones), the last contact of the card was in mainland China,” said Trinidad, who serves as the navy’s spokesman for South China Sea issues.

Three of the drones were found off the north coast of the Philippines’ main island of Luzon, including two near the Balintang Channel south of Taiwan, he added.

Two others were retrieved from what were identified as “critical chokepoints,” one near Masbate Island in the central Philippines and another near the southern island of Mindanao.

The Chinese Embassy did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The Philippines separately on Tuesday said this year’s Balikatan, or “shoulder to shoulder,” exercises with their U.S. counterparts would include a test of “integrated air

missile defense” for the first time.

The joint exercises, which will involve approximately 10,000 soldiers, will take place from April 21 to May 9.

“We are treating exercises as rehearsals. We are implementing a plan that has been planned out in the previous Balikatan and that is what we are going to execute at this time,” said Brigadier General Mike Logico.

Philippine defense chief Romeo Brawner this month told troops in northern Luzon that the island would host the bulk of the Balikatan exercises because of its strategic importance.

“These are the areas where we perceive the possibility of an attack. I do not want to sound alarmist, but we have to prepare,” he said.



PRIDE RUNS DEEP

New Chinese Sub Changes Picture in the Pacific

(concluded from page 7)

Despite earlier models having detectable noise issues, advancements in the design of these submarines have significantly improved their silence and stealth capabilities. The use of advanced noise reduction technologies ensures that these vessels can operate undetected, maintaining their strategic advantage. The Type 094A's role in China's nuclear deterrence strategy underscores its importance in the broader geopolitical landscape.

Enhanced Capabilities of the Type 094A

The Type 094A, in service since 2020, marks a significant advancement over its predecessors. This newer model is reportedly quieter and equipped with the more powerful JL-3 ballistic missiles, which have a staggering range of over 6,000 miles. This range enables the submarine to cover almost the entire American mainland from the South China Sea, enhancing China's strategic reach.

In addition to its missile capabilities, the Type 094A features a pressurized water-cooled nuclear reactor that powers a single propulsion shaft via a steam turbine arrangement. Modern power plant elements, including improved vibration dampening, contribute to better submerged speed and stealth performance. As China continues to develop its next-generation vessel, the Type 096, expectations are high for further enhancements in missile capacity and stealth technology.

Quieter Propeller Technologies

One of the most critical advancements in submarine technology is the development of quieter propeller systems. By utilizing pump-jet propulsion, submarines can significantly reduce their acoustic signatures, making them harder to detect in contested waters. This technology is integral to the Type 094A's ability to remain undetected while patrolling.

With a typical crew size ranging from 120 to 140 personnel, the Type 094A covers all operational domains, including navigation, reactor control, and missile operations. A dedicated team manages the strategic missile arsenal, highlighting the platform's primary role in China's nuclear strategy. Enhanced crew training aligns with the People's Liberation Army Navy's (PLAN) efforts to ensure continuous at-sea deterrence patrols, demonstrating China's commitment to maintaining a robust maritime presence.

Torpedo and Anti-Submarine Warfare Capabilities

The Type 094A is not just a platform for nuclear deterrence; it also boasts formidable anti-submarine warfare

capabilities. Equipped with six 533mm torpedo tubes, the submarine's forward hull can launch wire-guided, high-speed Yu-6 torpedoes. These provide conventional defense, with a range of over 18 miles and speeds of up to 60 knots.

The vessel's comprehensive suite of acoustic decoys, sonar countermeasures, and towed array sonar systems further enhances its ability to detect and respond to threats. This combination of nuclear and conventional weapons ensures that the Type 094A remains a versatile tool for maintaining China's strategic interests in the maritime domain.

As China continues to advance its naval capabilities, the Type 094A and its successors are poised to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of global military power. With each technological leap, these submarines underscore the strategic importance of underwater warfare in modern military doctrine. How will other nations respond to China's growing undersea prowess, and what implications will this have for international security dynamics?

For Those Who Dived

*A Tribute to All Submarine Veterans by Andrew Dingley
(Submitted from the internet by Bill Moak—thanks, Bill!)*

Beneath the waves where silence reigns,
Where light gives way and pressure strains,
They went not seeking glory's song,
But to guard the deep, and stand for strong.
No sun to warm their daylit path,
No breeze to chase away the wrath.
Just steel and echoes, breath held tight,
Through endless hours and vanished night.
They bore the still, they bore the hum,
The creak of hull, the reactor's thrum.
They learned to read what others miss,
The voice of sea, the ghostly hiss.
They slipped through oceans, cloaked in shade,
In peacetime watch or war's cascade.
And none but they can truly know
What silence costs when tides must flow.
For every dive and every rise,
For all the tears behind dry eyes,
For family missed and time they gave,
For friends now resting in the wave.
We honor them with quiet grace,
The ones who held that shadowed place.
The veterans of the silent fleet,
Whose courage runs both cold and deep.
So raise a thought, a steady breath,
For those who danced so near to death.
They are the ones who did not bend,
The sea their bond, their ship, their friend.

Virginia Class Features Limitless Upgrades

(continued from page 1)



(July 9, 2018) – Multi-national Special Operations Forces (SOF) participate in a submarine insertion exercise with the fast-attack submarine USS Hawaii (SSN-776) and combat rubber raiding craft off the coast of Oahu, Hawaii during Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise, July 9. Twenty-five nations, 46 ships and five submarines, about 200 aircraft, and 25,000 personnel are participating in RIMPAC from June 27 to Aug. 2 in and around the Hawaiian Islands and Southern California. The world's largest international maritime exercise, RIMPAC provides a unique training opportunity while fostering and sustaining cooperative relationships among participants critical to ensuring the safety of sea lanes and security of the world's oceans. RIMPAC 2018 is the 26th exercise in the series that began in 1971. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Daniel Hinton.)

Each new Virginia-class submarine “Block” of boats has advanced undersea attack and detection technology to new levels. Current Block III and Block V Virginia boats differ entirely from the earlier Blocks.

With a Virginia-class Block VI under development and continued exploration of a much-discussed SSN(X) future-generation attack submarine, some might wonder just how far the Virginia-class boats can be upgraded before a new hull is necessary.

No Limits to Virginia Class

The extent of upgrades to Virginia-class submarines appears to be limitless. Block III Virginia-class submarines and beyond are all engineered with a “fly-by-wire” automated computer navigational system, which enables humans to set depth and speed and allows computer automation to maintain the boat’s movements.

This automation replaced the legacy hydraulic mechanical navigation systems. Block III Virginias also have a rede-

signed Large Aperture Bow sonar system, bringing new capacity for range and sensitivity to acoustic detection.

Block III boats also leverage fiber-optic communications technology to enable commanders to view periscope sensor input from numerous locations inside the boat.

Block III boats have received new antennas, coating materials, and quieting technologies in recent years, significantly improving their ability to conduct clandestine undersea reconnaissance missions.

Block III also uses a “lockout-trunk” area where Special Operations Forces can exit a submarine for clandestine missions without having to surface.

Block V boats add massive firepower through the integration of Virginia Payload Modules, a roughly 80-foot missile-tube section added to the center of the vessel to increase its Tomahawk missile firing capacity from twelve missiles up to forty.

Alongside these innovations, there continue to be breakthroughs with undersea drones able to launch from missile tubes and conduct high-risk, forward-operating sensing and reconnaissance missions.

Wireless Undersea Connectivity

The largest area of progress may be undersea communications, and these are the breakthroughs that massively improve and change submarine operations without requiring a new submarine class.

The Navy and its industry partners have made significant progress with wireless undersea data transmissions, such as in the case of Raytheon’s Barracuda mine-destroying undersea drone.

Since radio frequency (RF) does not transmit beneath the surface, except in some mostly ineffective low-frequency signals, the Navy and its industry partners such as BAE Systems and Raytheon have been working on pioneering undersea non-electromagnetic connectivity able to function as GPS can on land.

A key tactical advantage here relates to undersea drones, as the Navy is still largely unable to transmit data quickly in real time between unmanned underwater vehicles and host ship submarines. Developers are closer to progress, yet forward-operating undersea drones have had to gather,

(concluded on page 13)

Virginia Class Features Limitless Upgrades

(concluded from page 12)

collect, and organize sensor data and then download it upon return.

However, this is changing as innovators launch UUVs from missile tubes and uncover technological methods of transmitting critical information in real-time.

One promising effort uses a series of transport layers integrated through gateways. Undersea drones can reach great depths yet remain “tethered” to a fiber optic cable able to send key threat data to the surface.

Perhaps an undersea drone uses forward acoustic “pings” to analyze a return signal and detect the presence of an enemy submarine.

In this instance, the drone can instantly send threat details to the surface through a high-speed cable.

Once the information is on the ocean’s surface, gateway technologies can use advanced computer technology and IP protocol to essentially “translate” data from one transport layer to another.

A surface gateway can attach to an antenna or above-water sensing and transmission device in position to send an RF or GPS signal to air, land, and surface nodes.

Moving beyond this, emerging technologies can increasingly approach or come closer to an ability to transmit real-time data wirelessly undersea.

There would seem to be few limits to this kind of technological advancement, which could introduce new concepts of operation and support a new generation of undersea combat without needing to redesign the *Virginia*-class hull.

Kris Osborn is the Military Affairs Editor of 19FortyFive and President of Warrior Maven - Center for Military Modernization. Osborn previously served at the Pentagon as a Highly Qualified Expert with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army—Acquisition, Logistics & Technology. Osborn has also worked as an anchor and on-air military specialist at national TV networks. He has further appeared as a guest military expert on MSNBC, The Military Channel, and The History Channel.



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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

He Never Stole Heavies

by Bob “Dex” Armstrong

Looking back over the span of forty years and sifting through the memories brings smiles to this old boat-sailor’s face. The smile normally worn by a kid who got away with continually poking frogs down the bloomers of the “Goddess of Proper Behavior.”

We had great times. I’ve always been glad I didn’t serve in submarines after they tamed the crews in order to project their idea of what serious professional decorum should look like. It was a time of adventure: the kind of life you dreamed of as a young lad. Riding diesel boats in the late ’50s was fun. The fine men who had put our old worn-out, shot-to-hell boats in commission had won a war, and in so doing had handed us a swashbuckling legacy. They created and earned a reputation for being “I don’t give a damn” folks. In the late ’50s, a lot of them were still around.

In those days, boats came with tubes that had actually fired stuff that had sent men and metal to the ocean floor. Some boats came with one hell of a meateater pedigree; you had a feeling of pride as you popped a snappy salute to their colors as you crossed over them in the nest.

We still had “walking decks” that allowed boatsailors to come topside and bullshit with lads on other boats. Some of the older boats that hadn’t been tapped for conversion still had “cigarette decks”—where guys in working gear could come topside after chow and catch a smoke and inventory night stars for no other reason than it was great to be alive.

Some fellow on a computer board recently posted something, signed his name and rate, and added, “We didn’t steal heavies.” Good for you, Horsefly. That tells me you missed one helluva lot of fun. It also tells me this fellow finds it very important for the world to know he was on a boat full of good boys. That in itself would’ve been good for a laugh in our day.

“Heavie rustlin” was great sport. It provided laughs. A good gang of heavie thieves were highly respected. Subron Six had some world championship line handler magicians. They could make heavies disappear right before your eyes. For example, nobody ever did it better than the guys off the *Redfin* or *Cubera*. Methodology was a tightly held secret. You could get the classified formula to Coca-Cola easier than the skinny on boat-specific heavie-stealing tricks. It was just what boatsailors did. And what made it great was that you knew the devious bastards stealing them would fight to be at the head of the line if you ever

needed a whole blood transfusion. In those days it all came with Dolphins.

When I read that “I didn’t steal heavies” bit, I felt sad for the poor sonuvabitch. He just didn’t get it. The poor bastard was obviously wrapped around the axle of some post-smokeboat era concept of “proper decorum and behavior.” I’ll bet my thirteen-button blues he never stood topside at a sunny morning quarters formation looking at his Chief of the Boat wearing shorts and a black Mexican sombrero. Or had an Exec who wore sandals at sea. And he probably never crossed his brow in blood-spattered whites with a broken nose. Never played “King of the Dumpster” in Bermuda or took a piss in the outfield in the twenty-third inning of an “all afternoon” beer ball game.

This lad must’ve been a four-oh sailor, and I am sure his mummy was proud.

If my hunch is right, he never pinned a set of Dolphins on a barmaid’s panties, or called for a “tit squeeze and a beer” at Bells. And no doubt the shore patrol never had to talk him down out of a tree either.

In a way, that’s sad, because as stupid as all this must sound to someone who never lived the life, it’s what made us what we were. But in the ’50s, no boat ended up on the front page because it sank, ran into something when surfacing, or worked for a Force Commander who had to go make a deep “let me kiss your ass” bow to the prime minister of what was once known as the Jap Empire.

We threw lads over the side because tradition held that no skipper pinned Dolphins on a dry shirt. And those Dolphins meant that the man wearing them knew his entire boat, and could find and operate all her gear blindfolded.

At the time, it was all we knew. It was what we were. Every night when I go to bed I still drift off to sleep secure in the knowledge that somewhere there is a submariner who never lifted a heaving line. What a wonderful way to characterize your boat service.

I can’t help remembering the phrase: “I am not a crook.”

I wore silver Dolphins and I rustled heavies.

Bigtime.



Keep a zero bubble... *Dex.*

New Members

We proudly welcome aboard:

Frank M. Berezney

SK2(SS) E-5 Petty Officer (2nd)
Contact: daughter Catherine
528 S. Cardiff Street
Anaheim, CA 92806-4334
cell: 714-337-3936
email: frank.berezney@gmail.com
Qualified in 1969 on USS *Spinax*
(AGSS-489); served 1967-1971.
Also on *Greenfish* and *Gudgeon*.

Brian M. Senior, Life Member
(EM1-SS E6—Petty Officer 1st Class)
Son of the Seniors; Spouse: Tamar
2015 Windmill Lane
Alexandria, VA 22307-1951
cell: 202-594-2050
email: briansenior@hotmail.com
Served '82-'94; qual'd on *Silversides*
(SSN-679) in '86; Nuc Operator;
in Navy Reserves 1990-1994.

Kathleen A. Carder

Associate; Significant Other of
Bill Moak; sponsor: Ray Teare
2865 Helm Street
Simi Valley, CA 93065-5257
cell: 662-335-5602
e: KathleenCarder@Outlook.com

David "Dave" Geske

(ICC-SS) E-7 Chief Petty Officer)
Spouse: Evelyn
4567 Pennyroyal Drive
Corona, CA 92878-3283
cell: 801-889-0178
email: dave.geske@outlook.com
Served '75-'86; qualified on *Thomas*
Jefferson (SSBN-618) in '77. Also
aboard *Ohio* (SSBN-726) '79-'82.

Charles B. "Charlie" McCarthy, Jr.
(LCDR - 04 - LCDR) Spouse: Anita
19068 Shadow Ridge Lane
Yorba Linda, CA 92886-2763
cell: 714-720-3837
email: cbmatylca@aol.com
Qualified in 1966 on *Geo. Bancroft*
(SSBN-643); served 1959-1976.

Laurie Ann Mabry

Associate; niece of Shipwreck
Kelly; sponsor: Ron Jones
Spouse: Harry
5923 Mildred Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4631
cell: 714-309-2367
laurieannmabry7082@gmail.com



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

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



New member

Charles and Anita McCarthy split their time between Yorba Linda here in SoCal, and Bow, Washington (shown in photo). Here's an update recently shared with our Membership Gal, Marilyn:



D-Day falls between my graduation (5th)

and anniversary (8th), and so if for no other reason I remember it each year.

We're doing well, enjoying the best spring and fall weather in the nation—and the view ain't bad either. Anita's mobility and fatigue impacts most of our activities, but we're learning to live with it.

Celebrating 62 years married today! Getting ready for the onslaught of visitors starting with son Brian from Vietnam next week. Fourth "great" (grand-daughter: Ayla) born in Fullerton on 30 May. We're blessed to have lived long enough to witness these beginnings of life.

Take care,
Charles and Anita



Our base has also heard from member David Nates (and Venetta) of Tavares, FL. David qualified aboard *Tecumseh* (SSBN-628) in 1981—Chuck Senior's boat, though at a different time—and served for twenty years. Rate: MT1(SS/AW) E-6 Petty Officer First Class. He was also a Missile Tech aboard *Nebraska* (SSBN-739) and served in the Reserves. Thanks for checking in, David!

Bonus Pic: The Seniors' daughter-in-law Tamar (right), her sisters, and their mom Arlene, at Yosemite. Seniors' son Brian and Tamar had wed there, their favorite place. Gotta love that magnificent waterfall!



(more next page)

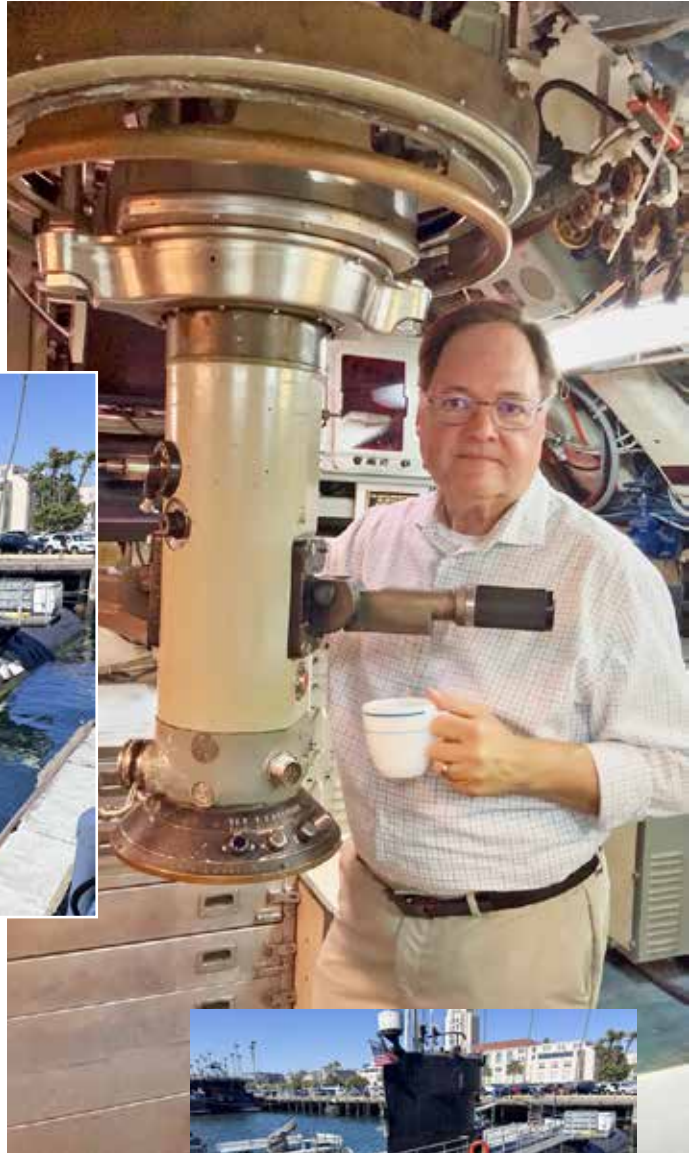


More Chapter News...

Darin Dives Deep on Dolphin

Base Secretary Detwiler Visits San Diego on Father's Day Weekend, Sends Back These Snapshots of His Tour of USS Dolphin (AGSS-555)

Been aboard this boat myself, a fun must-see when in San Diego!—ed.



Gee, this guy looks totally at ease with all the gear. Think he's done this before? And hey, is that a regulation sub coffee cup at upper right?



PRIDE RUNS DEEP



More Chapter News...

Photos from Meeting at Military Museum

Great to see some of our old Bldg. 6 memorabilia displayed in Simi Valley!

Kudos to Bill Moak for setting up this transfer and arranging the meeting too.—ed.



This stuff look familiar, shipmates? It should! It used to live at Bldg. 6—just like we did. And it's all pure gold... just like we are!





John P. Holland

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

*(75-year members noted with *)*

Scott Hultner.....	2024
Stanley O. Westrick	2024
Ronald R. Jones.....	2023
Gerard A. Krudwig.....	2022
Gregory M. Paulson	2022
Michael J. Swanson.....	2022
Ralph J. Hansen	2021
Robert F. Schive, Sr.....	2021
Larry D. Long.....	2021
G. Judson "Jud" Scott, Jr....	2021
Edward E. Kushins	2020
Bruce Evan Neighbors	2020
Frank M. Bereznay	2019
David H. Vanderveen.....	2019
Dennis Bott	2018
Robert "Mike" Cailor	2018
Robert Miller.....	2018
Roger C. Dunham, MD ...	2017
Richard McPherson.....	2017
Harry "Bill" Moak.....	2017
Louis A. Myerson	2017
Elliot Rada	2017
Ronald G. Wagner	2017
Dennis J. Walsh.....	2017
Michael Kish	2016
Charles B. McCarthy, Jr....	2016
Gary Wheaton.....	2016

(concluded next page)



Los Angeles-Pasadena Base 2025 Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 18	Monthly Meeting at Taco Surf, Los Alamitos
February 15	Monthly Meeting at VFW Hall, Anaheim
March 15	Monthly Meeting - Radiant Brewery, Anaheim
April 19	Monthly Mtg. - Clearman's Galley, San Gabriel
May 10	Field Day at the Memorial Site - 0900
May 17	Monthly Meeting at VFW Hall, Anaheim Nominating Committee Appointed Call for participants in the Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade
May 24	Field Day at the Memorial Site - 0900
May 26	Memorial Day Service - 1100 Submarine Memorial, West
June 21	Monthly Mtg. - Simi Valley Military Museum Call for nominations for 2026 Base Officers
July 4	116th Annual... Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade
July 19	LeRoy Stone Memorial Picnic at Dennis Walsh's Residence
August 16	Monthly Meeting - "Hawaii" Theme 2026 Base Officer Candidates Announced
September 20	ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Election of Officers
October 18	Monthly Meeting Annual Officer Installation Luncheon
November 15	Monthly Meeting - Thanksgiving Theme
December 20	Annual Christmas Luncheon at the Los Alamitos Golf Course

Lawrence R. Butler	2015
Samuel T. Higa	2015
Harry P. Ross	2015
Charles H. Senior	2015
Larry E. Smith	2015
Sam Aboulafia	2014
David Palagyi	2014
Earl Thomas Peratt, Jr.	2014
David D. Semrau, DDS	2014
Ray Tracy Teare	2014
Milton Harry Boudov	2013
Kenneth Jon Dorn	2013
M. Mark Hoffer	2013
Michael P. Klein	2013
Ronald L. Levenson	2013
Edward L. Arnold	2012
T. Michael Bircumshaw ...	2012
Raymond Cheesebrough .	2012
John V. Mahan	2012
Lee Melody	2012
Clyde Matthew Turner	2012
George R. Walrath	2012
John L. Weisenberger	2012
Edward A. Barwick	2011
Joseph W. Koch, Jr.	2011
Stephen D. Diumententi	2009
David Whittlesey	2009
Dennis A. Yure	2009
Armen Bagdasarian	2008
Paul A. Riggs	2008
Rex L. Shields	2008
Francis R. Traser	2006
Ronald K. Thompson	2004
James Rogers	2003
*William F. Long	1999
*Kenneth E. Chunn	1998
*Patrick Zilliacus.	1994
*William J. Dillon	1993



E-Board Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2025

The Los Angeles-Pasadena Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., Executive Board Meeting was conducted at the VFW Military Museum in Simi Valley, CA on Saturday morning, June 21, 2025. A quorum was met so the meeting proceeded normally.

In attendance:

- Dave Vanderveen, Base Commander
- Ray Teare, Base Vice Commander
- Darin Detwiler, Base Secretary
- Sue Bolton, Base Treasurer
- Ken Dorn, Director
- Bill Moak, COB

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the meeting to order at 1020 hours. Minutes of the prior E-Board and General meetings were reviewed. Ray Teare moved to accept the minutes into the base record; this was seconded by Bill Moak and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Financial Report: Sue Bolton

The Treasurer's Report as of June 19, 2025 was read into the Minutes by Base Treasurer Sue Bolton.

Checking	\$26,881.98
Cash On Hand	\$50.00
Uncleared Checks:	\$355.88
Total	\$26,576.10

All vendors have been paid up-to-date.

Income:	\$50.00
Expenses:	\$396.18

Flower/Booster Club Additions:

Robert Cailor	\$50.00
---------------	---------

There were no questions nor corrections needed. Dave Vanderveen moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and accept it into the base record; this was seconded by Ray Teare and passed unanimously.

In the event that this had not been formally recorded previously as needed, Ray Teare made a motion to approve a \$100.00 donation to the VFW Military Museum in Simi Valley, CA—site of this day's meeting. This was seconded by Dave Vanderveen and unanimously approved.

Ray Teare then made a motion to approve a payment of \$355.88 to "Altered Images" for printing our Memorial Day pamphlet. This was seconded by Dave Vanderveen and unanimously approved.

Memorial Update:

Dave Vanderveen and Ron Jones visited the site yesterday and found that the Reflecting Pool had not been not drained, flags remained in the curb around the grass, and wreaths and stands were askew. The two completed an impromptu field day to resolve these issues. Next year we need to have a designated post-ceremony detail and schedule a field day the week after the event. It was then noted that the missing Georgia state flag had been located.

The Boy Scouts' behavior and supervision was discussed. It was also determined that the flag was not lowered to half-staff by the Navy; we'd done this before the ceremony. Also, for future events, we need to better coordinate with the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station Public Affairs person (Greg Smith).

It was decided to start forming a new Memorial Ceremony Committee and start designating people to be in charge of specific tasks for the 2026 event.

Darin Detwiler motioned to form a planning committee for the 50th anniversary Memorial Day ceremony to be held in 2027. This was seconded by Bill Moak and passed unanimously. There was also a discussion about talking with and leveraging the power of the base chiefs in this effort.

(concluded on next page)

Navy Awards Up to \$17.1 Billion Sub Contract Mod to General Dynamics Electric Boat

The modification, along with another \$1.2 billion to prime contractor HII, is meant to fund two Virginia-class subs.

Reproduced from
<https://breakingdefense.com>
April 30, 2025
by Justin Katz

WASHINGTON — The Navy has awarded a long-awaited contract modification to General Dynamics Electric Boat, and major subcontractor HII, for the construction of two Virginia-class submarines appropriated through fiscal 2024 funding, according to a service statement.

The contract modification awarded to EB is worth \$12.4 billion and has a total value of \$17.1 billion if all options are exercised.

“We recently re-negotiated the planned contract to deliver this critical capability, and appropriately share risk between the Navy and industry,” said Navy Secretary John Phelan in the Navy statement. “We will be looking at all future contracts with a similar lens to ensure the appropriate level of risk sharing and value to the American taxpayer.”

“We understand the advantage Virginia-class submarines bring to the sailors who operate them, and our shipbuilders are working with diligence to deliver them to the fleet,” he added.



E-Board Meeting Minutes...

(concluded from previous page)

The Memorial Bricks Project: Our brick-laying has been delayed due to a base visit by a Flag Officer. Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station workers and volunteers from the CO's staff will perform the installation at some point in June, with the CO agreeing to allow us to observe and photograph/video the work. Dave Vanderveen will communicate with the base leadership on June 23 to find out when said activity will take place. *(Since this meeting, the Bricks Project has been completed; see Dave's column plus page 21.—ed.)*

Membership Update:

Our membership is static; we still have 99 total members.

July 4th Huntington Beach Parade:

Bonefish Base will provide their submarine trailer for use in the parade as usual; David Semrau will also have his convertible. Remember to bring water and meet at the usual location by L.A. Fitness and McDonald's off Yorktown and Goldenwest by 7:30 a.m. on July 4th. Darin Detwiler will be communicating with the local Navy recruiting office; female lead recruiter TM1(SS) Jones had expressed interest in participating and/or helping.

July 4th Bay Theater Film Screening Event:

The movie to be screened will be *The Hunt for Red October*. Doors will open at 4 p.m. on July 4th; the movie screens at 5 p.m. Darin Detwiler is facilitating a Q&A afterwards (at about 7:30 p.m.) with about four submarine veterans. He's also working to put together door prizes. We'll have our parade banner on hand for the screening, and the base will receive a cut of the ticket proceeds from the event. Please let Darin know if you plan to attend and if you want to be on the panel after the movie.

Tickets will be \$18—but we'll have a few free tickets reserved for the participants. Should you plan to attend, do consider wearing submarine veteran hats, shirts, vests, etc.

Upcoming Meeting Locations:

- JULY: Our Annual LeRoy Stone picnic, this year held again at Dennis Walsh's house in Brea. Please consider carpooling; bring your own meat for the BBQ as well as sides to share. Please bring tables, chairs, pop-up tent or other shade if possible. (See address and details on page 5.)
- AUGUST: Los Angeles County Fire Museum (16400 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower, CA 90706). www.lacountyfiremuseum.com. Optional lunch at a nearby restaurant afterwards. (Home of the famous Engine 51 and Squad 51 from TV's *Emergency!*)
- SEPTEMBER: Pot Luck at VFW Hall in Anaheim (805 E. Sycamore St., Anaheim, CA 92805). We'll work on the flags to inventory, inspect, and make sure they are clearly marked for next year's Memorial Day ceremony.
- OCTOBER: TBD - For the new officer installation we're considering the Radiant Brewery in Anaheim or the VFW Military Museum in Simi Valley.

Good of the Order:

Bill Moak motioned to donate \$100 to the Los Angeles County Fire Museum for use of their location for our August meeting. This was seconded by Ray Teare and passed unanimously.

Dave Vanderveen motioned to approve a potential \$100 worth of challenge coins for the Storekeeper. This was seconded by Ray Teare and passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Dave Vanderveen motioned for adjournment; this was seconded by Ray Teare and passed unanimously, ending the meeting at 1117 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Darin Detwiler

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI



Late-Breaking Chapter News...

Brick Project Finally Sees Fruition

Our base's long-aborning Memorial Brick Project was just installed at the NWSSB memorial site—check it out soon!

Here are early photos, giving you an idea of brick positioning and layout. See Dave's Commander's Column on page 2 for more details on how this recent development ultimately came about.—ed.



Closeups to show our brick project's visual impact. It's been so long, many have likely forgotten what they looked like or the kinds of things they said.





Submarine Veterans Event!

July 4th Screening of *The Hunt for Red October* at the Bay Theatre in Seal Beach

Features Submarine Veterans Q&A after the movie!

THE BAY THEATRE

FRIDAY, JULY 4, 2025 | 5:00 PM

**“The Hunt for Red October”
Movie Screening &
Submarine
Veterans Q&A
Celebrate
Independence Day
with Courage,
Suspense, and
Submarine Legends**

**SEAN CONNERY
THE HUNT FOR
RED OCTOBER
ALEC BALDWIN**

Celebrate Independence Day with courage, suspense, and submarine legends! This 4th of July, come aboard for an unforgettable evening at the historic Bay Theatre as we screen the 1990 classic *The Hunt for Red October*, followed by an exclusive Q&A with real-life local submarine veterans who lived the Silent Service.

Based on Tom Clancy’s bestselling novel, this pulse-pounding thriller follows Soviet Captain Marko Ramius (Sean Connery) as he commands the most advanced submarine of its time, the “Red October”—a stealth vessel capable avoiding detection. With the Cold War as the backdrop and tensions at a boiling point, CIA analyst Jack Ryan (Alec Baldwin) races to uncover whether Ramius is defecting—or preparing to strike the U.S.

After the film, hear directly from those who served beneath the waves—our submarine veterans. These local heroes will share behind-the-scenes insight into life aboard U.S. Navy submarines during the Cold War—what Hollywood got right (and wrong). Learn about the lasting legacy of the submarine service.

—Darin Detwiler



Fourth of July Parade in Huntington Beach

Take I-405 to Goldenwest Avenue south. Park in the lot on Goldenwest Avenue just south of Garfield Ave. near the Chase Bank. McDonalds and L.A. Fitness will be open for business and their staffs get a little tense when their customers can't park nearby.

Gather about 7:30. We will move with our parade vehicles to the staging area at 8:00. You will not be able to get there after we leave except on foot and it's about a mile and a half walk! The parade starts at 10:00 a.m., and we will begin to move forward about 10:30. We should finish about noon.

Please take water and sun protection, and if you cannot march the entire route, take a portable chair, too. There will be a handful of spaces on our two vehicles for riders, but it's best if you can walk the parade.

The parking area is adjacent to the parade ending point, so we can walk or ride to our vehicles. Hope to see you there!

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

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
DORADO
WAHOO

CORVINA
SCULPIN
CAPELIN
SCORPION
GRAYBACK
TROUT
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

