



THE DECK LOG

USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE
JANUARY 2022



Past



Present



Future



USSVI Creed

Section 1: To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country that their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice may be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments, and to pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

Camaraderie

Section 2: In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, USSVI shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for our mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. The USSVI supports a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

Perpetual Remembrance

Section 3: The organization engages in various projects and deeds that bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. USSVI also endeavors to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services United States submariners performed and how the sacrifices of lost shipmates made possible the freedom and lifestyle American enjoy today

HAPPY
New Year

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EDITOR'S DESK



The Deck Log is a monthly publication of the Central Texas Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. It is delivered via email in Microsoft Publisher PDF format to the Base Membership. A copy is printed and mailed via USPS to those shipmates not having email.

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U.S. Submarine Service

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WEB SITE: <https://ussvicentratexasbase.org/>

FACEBOOK PAGE: <https://www.facebook.com/ussvicentratexas/>

INSTAGRAM: [ussvi.centraltexasbase](https://www.instagram.com/ussvi.centraltexasbase)

BASE MEETINGS - Base meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at M/SGT Ben D Snowden VFW Post 8587, 1000 N College St, Georgetown, TX 78626. We hold a quarterly social in lieu of a Base Meeting in March, June, September and December.



The original design for the U.S. Submarine Force insignia approved in 1924 by Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., Acting Secretary of the Navy, is still in use today.



USEFUL INTERNET LINKS

NATIONAL INFORMATION SOURCES

A listing of Internet information addresses of the various organizations as places to obtain information on national items of interest. Shipmates, you are invited to add to the list (just let me know via email of any you use), so over time it would become more comprehensive.



<https://www.ussvi.org/home.asp>



<http://www.ussvi.org/base/CentralTexas.asp>



<http://www.csp.navy.mil/>



<http://www.navytimes.com/>



<http://www.navy.mil/swf/index.asp>



<http://www.military.com/>



<http://www.med.navy.mil/pages/default.aspx>



<http://www.fra.org/>



<http://defensetech.org/>



<http://www.subvetstore.com/index.php>



<http://www.subforce.navy.mil/>



<http://www.vfw.org/>



www.navyleagueaustin.org



www.navyleague.org



<http://www.usni.org/>



<http://www.navy.mil/navydata/cno/n87/n77.html>



www.military.com/military-report/



www.moaa.org



www.shiftcolors.navy.mil



<http://www.va.gov/>



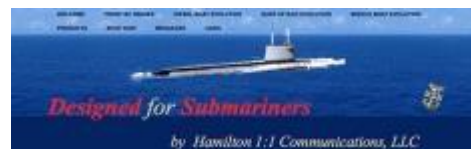
<http://www.submarinesailor.com>



<http://www.public.navy.mil/BUPERS-NPC/Pages/default.aspx>



<http://isausa.org/>



WWW.DESIGNED4SUBMARINERS.COM



<http://www.dfas.mil/>



<http://www.usmilitaryforum.com/forums/>



<http://www.ausn.org/>



<https://www.facebook.com/ussvicentraltexas/>

ETERNAL PATROL

TOLLING OF THE BOATS - JANUARY

"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



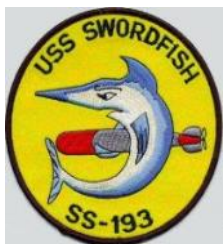
USS Scorpion (SS-278)

Lost on Jan 5, 1944 with the loss of 77 officers and men in the East China Sea, on her 4th war patrol. It is assumed she was sunk by a mine.



USS Argonaut (SS-166)

Lost on Jan 10, 1943 with the loss of 102 officers and men off Rabaul, on her 3rd war patrol. While attacking a convoy, she torpedoed a Jap destroyer who along with 2 other destroyers depth charged her. As she tried to surface, the destroyers sunk her by gun fire.



USS Swordfish (SS-193)

Lost on Jan 12, 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 Jan 20, 1942 with no loss of life, on her 2nd war patrol. She ran hard aground on a reef and radioed for help. The entire crew was rescued by a Dutch ship after they scuttled her.



USS S-26 (SS-131)

Lost on Jan 24, 1942 with the loss of 46 officers and men in the Gulf of Panama, on her 2nd 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.



We Remember For those who gave their lives in the defense of our country **We Remember**



27MC BASE ANNOUNCEMENTS BASE COMMANDER'S REPORT



Welcome to 2022 Shipmates!

I'm not sure about you all but I am really looking forward to seeing where this year takes us. Last year we certainly faced many challenges but as we all know it turned out to be a really great year overall for both our base and the organization. I'm excited to see how we build on that this year. Hopefully you are also. We have our first base meeting on January 19th at the Georgetown VFW. Hopefully you already have this on your calendar and we can start the year of strong with a good turnout. We will be swearing in our 2022 Base Officer slate and officially recognizing our Sailor of the Year, Frank Espinoza!

Last month we were able to hold our base Christmas party after having to cancel in 2020. We had a great turnout of over 60 people at the American Legion Hall in Round Rock. I really want to thank everyone involved in preparing for and conducting the event. Traci Maynard and Kathy Claycamp both were instrumental in the planning execution of this year's party. Many others contributed their time and efforts in set-up, decorations, clean up and more. Your efforts were truly appreciated by me and many others. I think everyone had a good time. The white elephant gift exchange went well and was fun. Bill and Lin Brinkman arranged for a food drop off and donations for the Round Rock Food Bank and were able to drop off a lot of food and donations of \$81 thanks to your generosity.

2022 is looking to be an exciting year for us. There is a lot to look forward too and some things we need to figure out. A few things I hope to hear your ideas on are ideas for a new float to replace the one we recently lost, and we need to discuss our Memorial Day tolling ceremony and possible alternatives for how we do this. The park is not going to be ready again this year and Round Rock is planning to hold a major Memorial Day event in Old Settlers Park that would take away from what we do. While both of these will force us to look at new and different ideas, I do not see this as a bad thing but as opportunities. I hope you do too and look forward to discussing these things with you all soon.

We have a couple of events coming up also that I am excited about and hope to see our base support. These include our 2nd Annual Lone Star Subvet Round-Up happening April 8-10 in Galveston this year. It will be similar to last years but different. Mark your calendars now and look for an announcement coming out soon. We have a room block at a hotel on the beach along with a RV park right across the street also on the beach. The other event coming up I'd like to mention is a Tolling ceremony that the PC Stryker base is coordinating in Fredericksburg at the Museum in May on the 20th or 21st. These dates were chosen as the Silent Service Motorcycle Club is holding their National Rally in Kerrville that weekend and this will allow them to attend. It should be a great ceremony and a good excuse to head on over the Fredericksburg for the day or weekend.

I would like to welcome a new shipmate to our base, Chris Munn. Chris was an ET and served on the USS Aspro from 76-80. We met Chris at the Wreaths for Vets ceremony up in Killeen last November. Chris lives in Lampasas. Hopefully you all will get to meet him soon.

Let's see what we can do to make 2022 our best year yet! We cannot do this without each of your efforts. The more of us that pitch in and contribute the better of we all will be. What do you have to offer, what kinds of things would you like to see us doing, how can you help? It's your base so think about this and let us know. Thanks for everything every one of you do!

Rick Mitchell, 512-639-0035,
Rmitch2@yahoo.com

[CTB Base Web Page](#)
[CTB Base Face Book Page](#)
[USSVI Face Book Page](#)



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BASE TREASURER'S REPORT

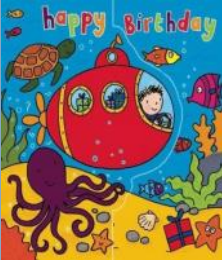
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15 December 2021

Financial Report for Period Ending 11/30/2021

Beginning Balance - 11/1/2021	\$28,177.52
RBFCU Checking (General Fund)	\$27,356.77
RBFCU Savings (Memorial Fund)	\$3,972.72
Uncleared Checks	-\$885.00
Ending Balance	\$30,444.49

JANUARY 2022



David Paulson - 2 nd
Fred Maass - 17 th
Bob Lind - 19 th
Robert Slobod - 20 th
Dentous Holloway - 28 th

CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MEMBERSHIP

Report presented to Base
Commander w/copy to Yeoman.

Members listed in Central Texas Database	82
Regular Annual Members	26
Associate Members	1
Base Life Members	37
Base National Life Members	47
Holland Club Members	39
Dual Members	4
Prospective Members:	0
War Veterans	69
Members pending:	0

Submitted: Chuck Malone, Membership

Submitted: Joe Keller, Treasurer

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STOREKEEPER CORNER

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The Central Texas Base (CTB) Supply Store is open for business. The Supply Store can obtain most of the items you need for memorabilia, your vest, gifts for others, etc. You can order them from the Storekeeper at a meeting or online at vclaycamp@yahoo.com. CTB can often get items at a lower than normal price, so you save money. The SK can search the net to find out-of-the-ordinary items, for all branches of the service. When requesting a ship's patch, tell the SK which coast you served on board, as the patches are often different for each coast.

The Base E-board is working on a way to inform you of the SK items in stock and prices and a way for to you purchase them either at the in-person meetings, or via an online email system to the SK for in-stock items.

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BINNACLE LIST

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We ask Lord, in your Son's Name, that you be with our Brother's and Sister's who are sick and ask that you hold them in your arms and heal them so that they might again join us around our table. In your Son's name, We pray, Amen.

Prayers for Bob Steinmann who fell and fractured his hip. Surgery went well and he's recovering.

Please keep us informed of any person who should be listed. These are the people that we know about, so please e-mail any E-Board member if you know of any member or his family that might be in crisis. Also please keep the Base Chaplain, Shipmate Bob Steinmann informed as well.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Unless otherwise promulgated, the Base Monthly meetings will be held in-person and/or a combination of in-person and Zoom meetings.

17 January 2022, E-Board Meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1530.

19 January 2022, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting. In-person and Zoom.

16 February 2022, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting. In-person and Zoom.

19 March 2022, Central Texas Base Quarterly Social, Details TBD

8-10 April 2022, Second Annual Lone Star Round-up, Seawolf Park, Galveston, TX. Details TBD

20 April 2022, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting. In-person and Zoom.

20-21 May 2022, Tolling ceremony, National WW II Museum of the Pacific, Fredericksburg, TX, with PC Stryker Base, Details TBD

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Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS)

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I have been staying in touch with the Children's hospitals. Due to the Coronavirus they have canceled all volunteer visits until further notice. I am checking with them monthly to reschedule as soon as it is safe to do so for the children and our volunteers. Any questions please do not hesitate to call me at 702-682-9170. Stay safe and be well. Thanks for all your support.

Shipmate Shawn O'Shea, Chair, Kap(SS)4Kid(SS)

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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INSPIRATIONAL. NOT A JOKE

Copied from a Facebook post by Shipmate Joe Keller on 12/16/21.

"Some years ago, I was stuck on a crosstown bus in New York City during rush hour. Traffic was barely moving. The bus was filled with cold, tired people who were deeply irritated with one another, with the world itself. Two men barked at each other about a shove that might or might not have been intentional. A pregnant woman got on, and nobody offered her a seat. Rage was in the air; no mercy would be found here.

But as the bus approached Seventh Avenue, the driver got on the intercom. "Folks," he said, "I know you have had a rough day and you are frustrated. I can't do anything about the weather or traffic, but here is what I can do. As each one of you gets off the bus, I will reach out my hand to you. As you walk by, drop your troubles into the palm of my hand, okay? Don't take your problems home to your families tonight, just leave them with me. My route goes right by the Hudson River, and when I drive by there later, I will open the window and throw your troubles in the water."

It was as if a spell had lifted. Everyone burst out laughing. Faces gleamed with surprised delight. People who had been pretending for the past hour not to notice each other's existence were suddenly grinning at each other like, is this guy serious?

Oh, he was serious.

At the next stop, just as promised, the driver reached out his hand, palm up, and waited. One by one, all the exiting commuters placed their hand just above his and mimed the gesture of dropping something into his palm. Some people laughed as they did this, some teared up but everyone did it. The driver repeated the same lovely ritual at the next stop, too. And the next. All the way to the river.

We live in a hard world, my friends. Sometimes it is extra difficult to be a human being. Sometimes you have a bad day. Sometimes you have a bad day that lasts for several years. You struggle and fail. You lose jobs, money, friends, faith, and love. You witness horrible events unfolding in the news, and you become fearful and withdrawn. There are times when everything seems cloaked in darkness. You long for the light but don't know where to find it.

But what if you are the light? What if you are the very agent of illumination that a dark situation begs for? That's what this bus driver taught me, that anyone can be the light, at any moment. This guy wasn't some big power player. He wasn't a spiritual leader. He wasn't some media-savvy influencer. He was a bus driver, one of society's most invisible workers. But he possessed real power, and he used it beautifully for our benefit.

When life feels especially grim, or when I feel particularly powerless in the face of the world's troubles, I think of this man and ask myself, What can I do, right now, to be the light? Of course, I can't personally end all wars, or solve global warming, or transform vexing people into entirely different creatures. I definitely can't control traffic. But I do have some influence on everyone I brush up against, even if we never speak or learn each other's name.

No matter who you are, or where you are, or how mundane or tough your situation may seem, I believe you can illuminate your world. In fact, I believe this is the only way the world will ever be illuminated, one bright act of grace at a time, all the way to the river."



The following selected articles are part of Undersea Warfare News weekly news bulletin emails during the month of December 2021.

"No content is created in the production of this Newsletter. These press clips and broadcast summaries are collected from multiple sources and are prepared by the command public affairs office to inform key personnel of news items of interest to them in their official capacities. It is not intended to be a substitute for newspapers, periodicals or public affairs programming as a means of keeping informed on news developments. Article selection or distribution does not imply endorsement and cannot be guaranteed for accuracy. Further reproduction for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions."

<http://www.subforce.navy.mil/>



Report on Virginia-class Attack Submarine Program

Not Attributed, USNI News, December 1

The Navy has been procuring Virginia (SSN-774) class nuclear-powered attack submarines (SSNs) since FY1998, and a total of 34 have been procured through FY2021. Since FY2011, Virginia-class boats have been procured at a rate of two per year. Virginia-class boats scheduled for procurement in FY2019-FY2023 are being procured under a multiyear procurement (MYP) contract. Most Virginia-class boats procured in FY2019 and subsequent years are to be built with the Virginia Payload Module (VPM), an additional, 84-foot-long, mid-body section equipped with four large-diameter, vertical launch tubes for storing and launching additional Tomahawk missiles or other payloads. When procured at a rate of two boats per year, VPM-equipped Virginia-class SSNs have an estimated procurement cost of about \$3.45 billion per boat.

The Navy's proposed budget requests the procurement of the 35th and 36th Virginia-class boats. The two boats have an estimated combined procurement cost of \$6,915.8 million (i.e., about \$6.9 billion). The two

boats have received \$1,888.3 million in prior-year “regular” advance procurement (AP) funding, and \$778.2 million in Economic Order Quantity (EOQ) funding, which is an additional kind of AP funding that can occur under an MYP contract. The Navy’s proposed FY2022 budget requests the remaining \$4,249.2 million needed to complete the two boats’ estimated combined procurement cost of \$6,915.8 million. The Navy’s proposed FY2022 budget also requests \$2,120.4 million in AP funding for Virginia-class boats to be procured in one or more future fiscal years, bringing the total amount of procurement and AP funding requested for the Virginia-class program to \$6,369.6 million (i.e., about \$6.4 billion).

A key issue for Congress concerns the SSN force-level goal and procurement rate. The Navy’s current force-level goal, which was released in December 2016, calls for achieving a maintaining a fleet of 355 manned ships, including 66 SSNs. On December 9, 2020, the Navy released a long-range Navy shipbuilding document that called for a Navy with 382 to 446 manned ships, including 72 to 78 SSNs, plus additional large surface and underwater unmanned vehicles (UVs). On June 17, 2021, the Navy released a long-range Navy shipbuilding document that calls for a Navy with 321 to 372 manned ships, including 66 to 72 SSNs, plus additional large surface and underwater UVs.

Under the Navy’s FY2020 30-year (FY2020-FY2049) shipbuilding plan, SSNs would be procured at a steady rate of two per year. Under the December 9, 2020, document, SSNs would be procured at a rate of three boats per year during the period FY2035-FY2041 and two and two-thirds boats per year (in annual quantities of 2-3-3) during the period FY2042-FY2050. The June 17, 2021, document suggests that the SSN procurement would eventually be increased to something more than two boats per year. In assessing the future SSN force-level goal and procurement rate, factors that Congress may consider include but are not necessarily limited to the following:

U.S. national security strategy and national defense strategy and the contributions that SSNs make to fulfilling those strategies;

the funding that would be needed each year to procure SSNs and operate and support the SSN force and the potential impact of SSN-related funding requirements, given potential future U.S. defense levels, on funding available for other Navy or Department of Defense (DOD) programs; and the capacity of the submarine construction industrial base to take on additional work that would be generated by procuring an average of more than two SSNs per year.



Why Submarines are the Best Asset for Defending Taiwan

Kris Osborn, *The National Interest*, December 1

Surface ships and land forces may be exposed in an attack on Taiwan. But submarines will be poised to strike back.

Surface ships are visible to an enemy from miles away. Many drones and aircraft are easily detectable. Ground-based weapons such as missile launchers and interceptors can largely be seen by satellite. This means any prepositioned assets deployed to deter or stop a Chinese amphibious assault on Taiwan are likely to be seen or known by attacking People’s Liberation Army forces.

But what about submarines? It seems reasonable to consider that submarines and undersea assets might be the best way for the United States and its allies to stop a Chinese invasion of Taiwan.

Ship and land-based sensors make it very difficult to position warships or even operate aircraft nearby Taiwan without being seen by Chinese forces. Therefore, China might attempt a surprise attack when U.S. aircraft carriers and visible assets are not within range. This is where submarines and undersea drones come in.

New quieting technologies, undersea drones, and improved torpedoes would make attacks from the sea more successful. If enough attack submarines and undersea drones are operating in the vicinity, they could be in position to attack and destroy advancing Chinese amphibious forces. Recent U.S. Navy advances in attack submarine technology make submarines deadlier with longer-range, more precise weapons systems. Tomahawk cruise missiles, for example, are able to change course in flight and destroy moving targets, placing them in a position to attack surface ships on the move. The navy is also developing its Very Lightweight Torpedo weapon which expands attack possibilities.

Block II Virginia-class and subsequent attack submarines are equipped with newer underwater antennas or communications devices, quieting enhancements, and special coating materials intended to make them less detectable. While details regarding what these look like are unavailable for security reasons, navy leaders

talked about these advances years ago when the USS South Dakota was designated as a prototype. The South Dakota and other submarines with similar innovations are now operational. This might be one reason why the concepts for operation for attack submarines have evolved to include more undersea surveillance. Block III Virginias also use fly-by-wire navigational controls, fiber optic cables, and more advanced sonar systems. Attack submarines and drones launched from torpedo tubes could likely operate along island and coastal areas conducting clandestine surveillance missions while being much less detectable than a surface ship or some aerial drones.

The U.S. Navy is also making progress with a growing fleet of small, mid-sized, and very large unmanned undersea drones. These platforms have very long endurance lurk beneath the sea for weeks tracking enemy surface ships, submarines, and mines. It is possible that some of them could be armed with weapons. While undersea drones can already find and explode mines autonomously, any actual lethal firing of a torpedo would need to be managed by a human.

As for the force itself, this may be one reason why the U.S. Navy continues to prioritize submarine construction. Congress and the navy have been concerned about the number of submarines available for several years, and could devote even greater resources to new construction. Global Firepower says China operates as many as seventy-nine submarines, compared to sixty-nine in the American fleet. However, American allies have submarines as well. Global Firepower lists South Korea as operating twenty-two submarines and Japan is cited as having twenty. These boats, in conjunction with U.S. Navy attack submarines, might indeed be well-positioned to stop the People's Liberation Army Navy, given their weapons ability and stealthy characteristics.



New Fleet Forces Commander Caudle Says Navy 'Will Own the Atlantic'

Sam LaGrone, U.S. Naval Institute News, December 7

ABOARD THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH -- The incoming head of the U.S. Navy's Atlantic fleet said his command will continue to prepare ships and sailors that will take on a renewed threat from across the sea.

Career submariner Adm. Daryl Caudle took charge of U.S. Fleet Forces Command from Adm. Chris Grady in a ceremony in the hangar of USS George H.W. Bush (CVN- 77) on Tuesday.

"Our direction from the Secretary of the Navy and the [Chief of Naval Operations] is clear. We are in a maritime era with readiness at a premium, we must focus our efforts on increasing the lethality and the capability of not only our Navy, but what we will bring to the joint force," newly minted U.S. Fleet Forces commander Adm. Daryl Caudle said on Tuesday.

"We will own the Atlantic – meaning three things. First, a guarantee that the homeland will be defended. Second, we will operate our forces without seams or artificial boundaries through command and control structures that are nimble, agile, responsive and mission-based. Finally, our adversaries will think more than just "not today" with respect to attacking the United States, but it will be the absolute wrong day to confront our Navy."

Caudle, who previously commanded the Norfolk-based Naval Submarine Forces, and U.S. Northern Command chief Air Force Gen. Glen VanHerck, both said on Tuesday that outgoing Fleet Forces commander Grady stressed organizing naval forces during his tenure against the threats from Russia and China.

"Our oceans can no longer be viewed as moats protecting us. They're actually potential attack vectors. They can be attack vectors from on the ocean [and] from undersea as well. I couldn't agree more with Adm. Grady," VanHerck said.

"Historically, out-of-area deployers from Russia and China have been seasonal threats. They're no longer seasonal threats. They're persistent proximate threats to our homeland. Today is primarily Russia. In five to 10 years, it will be both China and Russia, taking away decision space from our senior leaders, both in the Atlantic and the Pacific, in the Arctic and around the globe."

Grady was in command of Fleet Forces when the Navy stood up the subordinate U.S. 2nd Fleet – the service's answer to the growing capability and capacity of the Russian submarine fleet.

"Over the last three and a half years, Fleet Forces executed critical initiatives within the fleet and the foundry to ensure that the fleet is so supremely prepared to deter our adversaries, defend our nation, and to fight and win," Grady said in a speech on the carrier.

Grady also took on a greater role in the larger U.S. strategic forces structure as a subordinate command under U.S. Strategic Command in 2019.

STRATCOM commander Adm. Charles Richard said Fleet Forces would be key to U.S. efforts in strategic deterrence, as both Russia and China continue to expand their strategic weapons.

“Today ... demands American naval power stand up against two nuclear-capable adversaries who have the ability to unilaterally escalate a conflict to any level of violence. We haven’t been in a threat situation like this in over 30 years. And we never had to do two of them at a time,” he said.

Last month, Grady was nominated to serve as the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to succeed now-retired Air Force Gen. John Hyten. His confirmation hearing is scheduled for Wednesday.

Grady, a career surface warfare officer, has led the Norfolk, Va.,-based Fleet Forces Command since February 2019. Prior to Fleet Forces, Grady commanded the Europe-based U.S. 6th Fleet from 2016 to 2019. He had previously commanded the Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group, Destroyer Squadron 22, guided-missile destroyer USS Cole (DDG-67) and Avenger-class mine countermeasures ship USS Ardent (MCM-12).

New Fleet Forces commander Caudle has commanded three Los Angeles-class attack submarines – USS Helena (SSN-725), USS Topeka (SSN-754) and USS Jefferson City (SSN-759), according to his service biography. He previously led the Navy’s Pacific submarine force. He is a 1985 graduate of N.C. State University.



China’s New Stealth Destroyer Is on the Hunt for U.S. Submarines

Kris Osborn, The National Interest, December 9

However, it is not clear just how effective these new anti-submarine technologies would be against upgraded, high-tech, Virginia-class attack submarines equipped with new quieting technologies and stealth coating materials.

China’s first quasi-stealthy new Type 055 destroyer is preparing for aggressive submarine-hunting missions near Taiwan and the South China Sea. How? By testing helicopter-dropped sonar and built-in anti-submarine technologies.

Part of the exercise included cross-domain networking initiatives wherein the surface destroyer networked with helicopters and other aircraft to track threats and transmit target data in real-time, according to the Chinese Communist Party-backed Global Times newspaper. The four-day exercises included what the paper called “realistic scenario-oriented anti-submarine training courses.”

In a manner apparently quite similar to how Arleigh Burke-class destroyers interoperate with Sikorsky MH-60R Seahawk helicopters, the new Chinese Nanchang destroyer dispatched a Z-9 search helicopter to deploy sonar equipment. The newspaper praised the Nanchang’s ability to discern submarine signals from other sources of undersea noise.

“Despite fishing boat activities in the vicinity of the exercise zone, which disrupted the sonar equipment’s detection of submarines, the Nanchang was able to use its acoustic data analysis and application system to accurately distinguish the noises of the submarine,” the Global Times writes.

The extent of secure or hardened connectivity between the Nanchang and its sub-hunting helicopters would be crucial, as it may not parallel the U.S. Navy’s ability to quickly exchange threat data from undersea to helicopter and drones before reaching a host ship destroyer able to perform command and control.

The Nanchang also fires rocket-propelled, submarine-killing torpedoes and has an ability to conduct “joint fire strikes,” according to the Chinese paper.

The Chinese paper did say part of the intent of the anti-submarine drills was to ensure U.S. attack submarines could not operate near Chinese shores. However, it is not clear just how effective these new anti-submarine technologies would be against upgraded, high-tech, Virginia-class attack submarines equipped with new quieting technologies and stealth coating materials.

Virginia-class attack submarines are increasingly being thought of as platforms capable of conducting undersea reconnaissance missions, due to navigational, acoustic, and sensing upgrades.

Interestingly, it seems significant that the Chinese paper made no mention of undersea drones as being part of the Nanchang’s networked sub-hunting network. Many U.S. Navy surface ships, such as its Littoral Com-

bat Ships, are able to launch and recover submarine-hunting drones and mine-hunting platforms. Any kind of effective submarine-hunting mission would benefit greatly from an ability to gather time-sensitive intelligence information from beneath the surface.

Ultimately, the success of the Nanchang's ability to truly find submarines would not only rest on the range and fidelity of its sonar and acoustic-data collection and analysis but also upon an ability to securely network that data across domains in real-time. Submarines can of course quickly change position, so an anti-submarine mission would need to find a day to move information quickly or develop an extended "continuous track" because an attack submarine on a clandestine surveillance mission is not likely to stay in one place for long.

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More Submarine News

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Columbia-Class: The US Navy's New Missile Submarine Will Make History

[Columbia-Class: The US Navy's New Missile Submarine Will Make History - 19FortyFive](#)

DILIGENTLY AT WORK
The first Ohio-class submarine will reach the end of its service life in Fiscal Year 2027. To ensure there is no gap in the nation's most survivable strategic deterrent, Electric Boat has been involved in concept studies for the next-generation submarine for several years, and has begun the engineering and design work needed to support the Navy's schedule.

Washington Monument: 555 feet

Killer whale (male): 28 feet

USS Holland, first EB production submarine: 54 feet

USS Hunley, Civil War sub: 41 feet

MK 48 torpedo: 19 feet

Long-Aperture Bow Array Sonar (LAB)
Will monitor and acquire foreseeable threats into the 2080s

Trident II D5 SLBM: 44 feet

GENERAL DYNAMICS

COST - EFFECTIVE
Trident missile launch tube assemblies are modular, achieving cost savings during both construction and life-cycle maintenance.

A partnership with our UK allies will further trim costs by making launch systems cross-platform compatible.

Quad Packs
Launch tube

Total operational warheads: 1,920 (?)
Represents 10 warheads

BURDEN OF DEFENSE 70%
As a result of new START reductions in operational stockpiles, submarines will carry 70% of the total US arsenal of nuclear warheads by 2020.

LARGE AND IN CHARGE
The largest class of submarine in the US Navy, the SSBN-X will have destructive power unparalleled in human history.

By [Caleb Larson](#) 12-15-21

Columbia-class Promotional Picture. Image Credit: General Dynamics.

Columbia-class Submarine: a 2 Minute Explainer: Several months back, the Secretary of the [US Navy](#) stressed that keeping [Columbia-class](#) program costs on target will be crucial to countering [Chinese ambitions](#) around the globe.

One Record-Breaking Sub

The United States Navy's biggest modernization priority right now is the Columbia-class of nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines. The class will replace the [Ohio-class](#) nuclear submarines and take over the older submarines' role as the United States underwater strategic deterrent. The first [Columbia submarine](#) is slated to enter service in 2027.

Like the previous Ohio-class, the [Columbias](#) will carry Trident II nuclear intercontinental ballistic missiles. However, the Columbia-class will feature several improvements over its predecessor.

One of the most significant boons to the class will be its nuclear reactor. Unlike most nuclear-powered submarines, the Columbia-class can forgo the lengthy and complicated nuclear fuel exchange process in the middle of its service life. Instead, the class will operate with the same nuclear fuel it shipped with until it re-

tires, reducing maintenance time and expense and allowing the submarines to spend less time out of the water.

The [Columbia-class is expensive](#) — by some estimates, the program will be the most expensive project the United States Navy has ever undertaken. But costs are just one challenge, there is also what can easily be seen as requirements creep.

Costs and Competitors

In comments given [during an event](#) hosted by The Southeastern New England Defense Industry Alliance, the United States Secretary of the Navy, Carlos Del Toro, stated in no uncertain terms that the U.S. Navy must withstand “requirements creep” when finalizing the Columbia-class design.

Keeping program costs low has proven to be a challenge in recent years. For example, the Navy’s [Littoral Combat Ships](#), a two-class ship group of advanced modular ships, famously came to a screeching end after incredibly inflated program costs triggered a Congressionally mandated project halt.

In addition to keeping costs low, Navy Secretary Del Toro stressed that the Navy must also “not lose sight of China” and that a successful Columbia-class rollout would “prevent them [China] from taking over” in the naval domain. China is “committed to being a full-scale competitor” of the United States worldwide, Del Toro explained, emphasizing that is “why we have to accelerate our efforts in technology.”

Postscript

The People’s Liberation Army Navy has made significant advancements both quantitatively and qualitatively. In addition to sailing the world’s largest navy in terms of sheer hull numbers, domestically-built [Chinese submarines](#) are becoming increasingly sophisticated, posing a threat to previously unrivaled American suprema-



cy at sea. Moreover, China’s expansion and modernization of its nuclear forces and recent advances in hypersonic missile technology pose a challenge as well.

An artist rendering of the future U.S. Navy Columbia-class ballistic missile submarines. The 12 submarines of the Columbia-class will replace the Ohio-class submarines which are reaching their maximum extended service life. It is planned that the construction of USS Columbia (SSBN-826) will begin in in fiscal year 2021, with delivery in fiscal year 2028, and being on patrol in 2031.

Keeping a firm grip on the Columbia-class scope of purpose will be crucially important to project costs — and necessary if the U.S. Navy wants to counter an increasingly capable People’s Liberation Army Navy more effectively.

Caleb Larson is a Defense Writer based in Europe. He holds a Master of Public Policy and covers U.S. and Russian security, European defense issues, and German politics and culture.



Why The US Navy’s New SSN(X) Submarine Could Change Everything

By [Caleb Larson](#), December 14, 2021

<https://www.19fortyfive.com/2021/12/why-the-us-navys-new-ssnx-submarine-could-change-everything/>

By [Caleb Larson](#), December 14, 2021

SSN(X), Explained in 3 Minutes: Although the new nuclear-powered attack submarine is not yet in service, it could very well be one of the most advanced submarines ever built.

The United States Navy would like to procure a [new class of nuclear-powered attack submarines](#) that will likely be the [most advanced submarines ever built for any navy](#). The first of the class provisionally called the [Next Generation Attack Submarine or SSN\(X\)](#), is slated to enter U.S. Navy service in 2031.

U.S. Navy submarine designations can be confusing. However, there are several broad categories of submarines operated by the Navy and many other nations around the world: [nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines](#) (SSBNs), [nuclear-powered cruise missile](#), special operations force submarines, as well as [nuclear-powered attack submarines](#) (SSNs). The Next Generation Attack Submarine falls into the last category.

SSN(X): Next-Generation Attack Submarine

U.S. Navy documentation explains that the SSN(X) “will be designed to counter the emerging threat posed by near peer adversary competition for undersea supremacy. Unlike the VIRGINIA Class Submarine, which was designed for multimission dominance in the littoral, SSN(X) will be designed for greater transit speed under increased stealth conditions in all ocean environments, and carry a larger inventory of weapons and diverse payloads.”

But, the SSN(X) “will also be designed to retain multi-mission capability and sustained combat presence in denied waters, with a renewed priority in the antisubmarine warfare (ASW) mission against sophisticated threats in greater numbers.”

In essence, the Navy would like the [SSN\(X\)](#) to combine the best qualities of some of the United States most advanced submarines by blending the [speed and munition capacity of the Seawolf-class](#), the sensor suite and low acoustic signature of the Virginia-class, and the flexibility and longevity of the forthcoming Columbia-class submarine designs.

Tyranny of Distance

Hard to detect and harder to hit, submarines are apex predators in the ocean. And given the increasing importance of the [Indo-Pacific region](#), United States naval power — and by extension, submarine forces — are a high priority for the Department of Defense.

Recent news reports raise the alarm bells about [China’s naval power](#) and point out that the [People’s Liberation Army Navy](#) is the [largest in the world](#) in terms of hull numbers. But while the PLAN is numerically superior to any navy, a fact worthy of note, it is qualitatively inferior.

SSN(X): What Happens Next?

American naval power would be essential if a conflict were to erupt in the Indo-Pacific, especially submarine capabilities. In the Next Generation Attack Submarine, it seems the United States Navy has found the most capable submarine ever envisioned.

Caleb Larson is a multimedia journalist and defense writer based in Europe. A graduate of UCLA, he also holds a Master of Public Policy and lives in Berlin. He covers the intersection of conflict, security, and technology, focusing on American foreign policy, European security, and German society for both print and radio.



HISTORY



The following selected history articles is a calendar listing of submarine activities as part of Undersea Warfare News weekly news bulletin emails on these days during the months of December 2021 in Undersea Warfare History

<http://www.subforce.navy.mil/>

November 29, 1944 | USS Archerfish (SS 311) sinks Japanese carrier Shinano on her maiden voyage 160 nautical miles southwest of Tokyo Bay. Shinano is the largest warship sunk by any combatant submarines during World War II. Also on this date, USS Scabbardfish (SS 397) sinks Japanese submarine I-365 east of Honshu.

November 30, 1993 | President William J. Clinton signs legislation that lifts the ban on women serving aboard combat ships.

December 1, 1943 | USS Bonefish (SS 223) sinks Japanese transport Nichiryō Maru in the Celebes Sea while USS Pargo (SS 264) sinks the Japanese transport Shoko Maru north of Ulithi. Also on this date, USS Peto (SS 265) sinks Japanese transport Tonei Maru.

December 2, 1944 | USS Sea Devil (SS 400) sighted a large convoy, firing a second round of torpedoes, sinking a medium sized freighter. It then fired four torpedoes from her stern tubes at a large passenger cargo Maru, which hit.

December 3, 1943 | USS Tinosa (SS 283) sinks the Palau-bound Japanese fleet tanker Azuma Maru north-west of Sonsorol.

December 6, 1917 | During World War I, German submarine U-53 torpedoes and sinks USS Jacob Jones (DD-61) off England with the loss of 64 lives. U-53s commanding officer, Hans Rose, in a rare gesture, reports the 38 survivors drift location to the American base in Queenstown, Ireland.

December 7, 1941 | In one of the defining moments in U.S. history, the Japanese attack the U.S. Pacific Fleet and nearby airfields and installations at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

December 8, 1941 | Upon receiving word of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, USS Pickerel (SS 177), under LCDR. Barton E. Bacon, Jr., sped to the coast of Indo-China and conducted her 1st war patrol off Cam Ranh Bay and Tourane Harbor.

December 9, 1941 | USS Triton (SS 201) was informed by radio Wake that Pearl Harbor, HI. had been bombed and was ordered to stay out of range of Wake's guns. Triton's practice war patrol turned out to be its first "real" war patrol.

December 10, 1942 | After repairing at Brisbane, USS Plunger (SS 179) returned to the Guadalcanal area for her 4th war patrol and operated off Munda, where Japanese barges were coming in at night, unloading troops and supplies, and departing by day break.

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More History

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Skipjack: The US Navy's Ultimate Cold War Submarine?

By [Peter Suci](#) Published December 7, 2021

<https://www.19fortyfive.com/2021/12/skipjack-the-us-navys-ultimate-cold-war-submarine/>



Skipjack-class Submarine. Image Credit: Creative Commons.

Skipjack, a 3 Minute Explainer: During the Cold War, the [United States Navy](#) developed what were arguably the first truly modern submarines with the *Skipjack*-class, which combined two new innovations – [nuclear power and a “tear drop” hull design, which reduced underwater resistance and allowed greater submerged speed and maneuverability](#). Both technologies had already been used, as the *USS Nautilus* was the world’s first nuclear-powered submarine when it was launched in 1954, while the *USS Albacore* was the first to feature the “teardrop” hull when it entered service in 1958.

However, as a “top to bottom” new attack submarine design it used nuclear propulsion and featured the new hull design. In addition the *USS Skipjack* – the lead boat was named after the Skipjack tuna – [was also the first nuclear submarine to utilize a single shaft, and the placement of the bow planes on the sail helped reduce the flow noise at the bow-mounted sonar](#). The fish-shaped subs, which were a departure from the “cigar-shaped” hulls, became the basis of all future American submarines.

Construction on the lead ship of her class was laid down in May 1956 by the Electric Boat Division of the General Dynamics Corporation, and *USS Skipjack* was launched on May 26, 1958. The boat was 252 feet in length, 31 feet at the beam. She was 3,070 tons surfaced and 3,513 tons submerged, and had a speed of 15 knots surfaced and 29 knots submerged. Unlike other submarines of the era, the S5W nuclear-powered reactor meant that the *Skipjack*-class boats could remain submerged most of the time.

The boat featured six 21 (533mm) torpedo tubes at the bow, and was armed with 24 torpedoes, which included the Mark 37, Mark 14, Mark 45 ASTOR nuclear torpedoes and/or Mark 48 torpedoes.

A total of six *Skipjacks* were produced from 1956-1961 and the boats remained in commission from 1959 until 1990. While these boats were essentially rushed into service, it is a testament of the innovative features that the final one wasn’t retired until the end of the Cold War.

[Sadly, the third ship in the class, *USS Scorpion*, was lost with all hands – 12 officers and 87 enlisted men – on May 22, 1968](#). She is one of two nuclear submarines, along with the *USS Thresher*, that has been lost by the United States Navy, and was one of four mysterious submarine disappearances in 1968 along with the Soviet *K-129*, the French *Minerve* and the Israeli *INS Dakar*. The U.S. Navy initially concluded that the most probable cause of the loss of the *Scorpion* was the launch of an inadvertently activated torpedo, which may have turned and struck the boat. After a six-month search, the wreck of the *Scorpion* was found 400 miles southwest of the Azores, but an investigation showed no evidence of torpedo damage. A later theory suggested that an irreparable leak may have flooded the submarine, which resulted in an internal explosion that caused it to sink.

Peter Suci is a Michigan-based writer who has contributed to more than four dozen magazines, newspapers, and website. He is the author of several books on military headgear including [A Gallery of Military Headgear](#), which is available on Amazon.com.



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS

USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2021-072

NEWS-01: National Commander message

Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander on 12/21/2021

Shipmates,

The USSVI National Board of Directors would like to convey our warmest thoughts and best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Please take time during this holiday season to pause and reflect on the past year, spend precious time with your loved ones, and focus your thoughts on the important things that give our lives meaning as we move forward into 2022.

All the best and please take care,

Wayne Standerfer
National Commander



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2021-073

NEWS-01: USSVI VSO news for December, 2021

Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO on 12/21/2021

Shipmates,

Disabled Veterans to See Largest Pay Raise in Decades for 2022

https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/allowances/cola-for-retired-pay.html?ESRC=mr_211220.nl

See Your 2022 VA Disability Pay Rates

https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-disability-pay-rates.html?ESRC=mr_211220.nl

DFAS Retiree Newsletter December 2021

<https://www.dfas.mil/retireenews>

You Soon Will Be Able to Renew Your Passport Online, Get Through TSA Quickly

https://www.tripsavvy.com/biden-executive-order-renew-passport-online-5213188?utm_campaign=travelgets&utm_medium=email&utm_source=cn_nl&utm_content=26068400&utm_term=

A New Program Promises More Pay and Perks for Sailors to Stay at Sea

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2021/12/09/new-program-promises-more-pay-and-perks-sailors-stay-sea.html?ESRC=navy-a_211215.nl

Damaged Navy Attack Submarine Arrives in San Diego After Surface Voyage from Guam

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2021/12/14/damaged-navy-attack-submarine-arrives-san-diego-after-surface-voyage-guam.html?ESRC=navy-a_211215.nl

Troops Booted for Refusing Vaccine Guaranteed at Least a General Discharge Under Defense Bill

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgzGllVgcqffthbRDBVpQKzhGwRph>



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2021-074

NEWS-01: This just in VSO

Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO on 12/21/2021

Shipmates,

After three years, Walmart is leaving TRICARE'S pharmacy network due to its reluctance to offer more highly competitive discounts to military health beneficiaries. At the same time, CVS Pharmacy will return to the TRICARE network after a five-year pause.

Effective December 15, 2021 Walmart and Sam's Club will no longer be a part of the TRICARE network. To find more information on the network go to:

<https://www.tricare.mil/CoveredServices/Pharmacy/Fill/Prescriptions/Network>

Changes to the Pharmacy Home Delivery up to a (90-day supply)

Generic formulary drugs will increase from \$10 to \$12

Brand-name formulary drugs will increase from \$29 to \$34

Non-formulary drugs will increase from \$60 to \$68

Changes to the Retail network pharmacies up to a (30-day supply)

Generic formulary drugs will increase from \$13 to \$14

Brand-name formulary drugs will increase from \$33 to \$38

Non-formulary drugs will increase from \$60 to \$68

The changes to the non-network pharmacies up to a (30-day supply)

Generic formulary drugs and brand-name formulary drugs will increase from (\$33 to \$38), or the co-pay will be 20% of the total cost of the drug, whichever is greater, after meeting the annual deductible.

Non-formulary drugs will increase from (\$60 to \$68), or the co-pay will be 20% of the total cost of the drug, whichever is greater, after meeting the annual deductible.



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2021-075

NEWS-01: USSVCF end of year appeal

Submitted by: Ken Earls on 12/23/2021

Shipmates,

Your US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation is frequently appealing to our membership for donations. There is a reason our purpose is to function as a charitable organization to help other submarine veterans and their families. We have no source of income other than the generosity of our members. All funds that are received are held in trust until a legitimate need is identified and then we step in with financial support. While funds are held, we invest and have, over the past 20 plus years, done well with our investing. A few former USSVI members, upon their departure on Eternal Patrol, have remembered the US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation in their Wills and have left endowment funds. These are funds that cannot be spent, but rather invested and the earnings on the investments can be used to support ongoing charitable activities.

As we approach the end of 2021, I am asking for you to remember your shipmates and share a little. Your personal budget determines how much you can share, but I can assure you that all donations are warmly welcomed. One-time donations are important. Recurring donations, regardless of the amount, are vital to our continuing success.

Due to the COVID Pandemic, the IRS has a special tax rule that allows Americans to deduct charitable donations on their 2021 taxes, thereby lowering their tax liability. Single filers can deduct up to \$300; married couples that file jointly can deduct up to \$600. Importantly, it isn't necessary to itemize your taxes to claim it. This is in addition to your Standard Deduction if that is how you file your tax return. However, time is running out. The deadline for making an eligible donation is Dec. 31.

Go to www.ussvcf.org and you can easily make your donation in support of our entire community.

Thank you.

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



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2021-076

NEWS-01: 2022 National Officer nominations positions and requirements

Submitted by: John E. Markiewicz, IPNC on 12/27/2021

Shipmates,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2021-077

NEWS-01: Amazon Smile

Submitted by: Ken Earls on 12/31/2021

Shipmates,

Every Amazon customer who has designated Smile.Amazon.com to support the US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc received this message last week. We are now running at an annual rate of over \$1,700 coming from Smile.Amazon.com as donations to our Charitable Foundation. This is free money, it only takes a short amount of time for you to designate the US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc. as to the charitable organization that you want to support. Be careful, you have to designate exactly as highlighted in bold. The following is the latest donor email from AmazonSmile:

Dear Donor,

This is the quarterly notification to inform you that AmazonSmile has made a charitable donation to the charity you've selUS Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc., in the amount of \$433.25 as a result of qualifying purchases made by you and other customers who have selected this charity.

Thanks to customers shopping at smile.amazon.com or using the Amazon app with AmazonSmile ON, everyday purchases make an impact. So far, AmazonSmile has donated:

- \$5,877.93 to US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc.*
- Over \$306 million to US charities
- Over \$346 million to charities worldwide

Visit your AmazonSmile impact page to track donations generated or change your charity.

Thank you for selecting your US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc. as your charitable organization. Please do this now. It only takes a short amount of time and then every order you place with Amazon, a small amount is donated by Amazon to our organization.

Ken Earls
Executive Director & Treasurer
Charitable Foundation
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.
kenearlss@gmail.com
541-879-3038 - Home
928-308-4488 - Mobile



Planting Your Spring Garden

For the garden of your daily living

Plant Three Rows of peas

- Peace of Mind
- Peace of Heart
- Peace of soul

Plant Fur Rows of Squash

- Squash Gossip
- Squash Indifference
- Squash Grumbling
- Squash Selfishness

Plant Four Rows of Lettuce

- Lettuce Be Faithful
- Lettuce Be Kind
- Lettuce Be patient
- Lettuce really Love One Another

No Garden is Complete Without Turnips

- Turnip for Meetings
- Turnip for Service
- Turnip for Help One Another

To Conclude Our Garden We Must Have Thyme

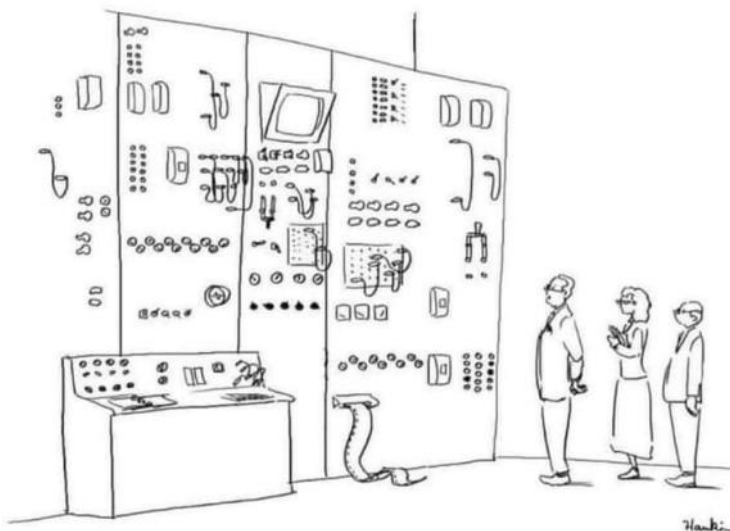
- Thyme For Each other
- Thyme For Family
- Thyme for Friends

Water Freely With Patience and Cultivate with Love. There is Much Fruit in Your Garden Because you Reap What You Sow.



The past cannot be changed.	Opinions don't define your reality	Everyone's Journey IS <i>different</i>	Things get better with Time
Positive thoughts Create positive things	12 Things to Remember in Life		What goes round come around
You fail only if you quit			Judgments are a confession of character
Over thinking will lead to sadness	Kindness Is Free	Smiles are contagious	Happiness is found within

HUMOR



*“Someday, you’ll be able to hold one of these
in the palm of your hand while you poop.”*

MY BODY SOMETIMES FEELS
SORE, BUT IT WORKS.
I DON'T SLEEP WELL MOST
NIGHTS, BUT I DO WAKE UP
TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY.
MY WALLET IS NOT FULL
BUT MY STOMACH IS.
I DON'T HAVE ALL THE
THINGS I EVER WANTED
BUT I DO HAVE EVERYTHING
I WILL EVER NEED.
I'M THANKFUL BECAUSE
ALTHOUGH MY LIFE IS BY
NO MEANS PERFECT,
IT'S MY LIFE
AND I'M HAPPY.
