



THE DECK LOG

USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE

AUGUST 2022

VOLUME XI - ISSUE 8



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

A submarine's natural habitat is the deep, silent depths of the sea. The deeper she can go, the safer she is, and with the comfortable shelter of hundreds of feet of ocean overhead the submariner can relax. Deep in the sea there is no motion, no sound, save that put there by the insane humors of man.

Edward L. Beach

Run Silent, Run Deep (Classics of Naval Literature)

#kindlequotes

IT'S BETTER TO
LOOK BACK ON
LIFE AND SAY:

"I CAN'T
BELIEVE I DID
THAT."

THAN TO LOOK
BACK AND SAY:

"I WISH I HAD
DONE
THAT."



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USSVI CENTRAL DISTRICT 4 COMMANDER

Rick Mitchell 512-639-0035 rmitch2@yahoo.com

CENTRAL TEXAS BASE OFFICERS

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--|
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| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--|
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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.

Deck Log Editor

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U.S. Submarine Service

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Have you ever worn the proud symbol pictured above? Are you related to, or know someone who is wearing, or has worn, Submarine Dolphins?

Visit our Web Site at:
<https://ussvicentraltexasbase.org/>

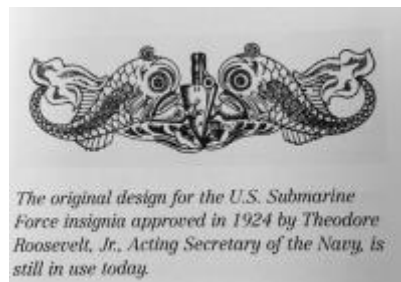
USSVI WEB SITE: <http://ussubvets.org/home.asp>

BASE WEB SITE: <https://ussvicentraltexasbase.org/>

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

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.



2012, 2013, 2016,
2018, 2019, 2020,
2021

2010, 2014,
2017, 2020

2020 Base

2021
Rick Mitchell
Bill Scott

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>



<https://www.sublant.usff.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/>



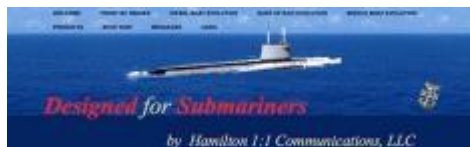
<http://www.submarinesailor.com>



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



<http://isasusa.org/>



WWW.DESIGNED4SUBMARINERS.COM



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



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



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



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

SILENT RUNNING - AUGUST

"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 Bullhead (SS 332)

Lost on August 6, 1945 with the loss of 84 crew members in the Lombok Strait while on her 3rd war patrol when sunk by a depth charge dropped by a Japanese Army plane. U. S. and British submarines operating in the vicinity were unable to contact Bullhead and it was presumed that she was sunk during Japanese antisubmarine attacks. Bullhead was the last boat lost in WWII.



USS Flier (SS 250)

Lost on August 13, 1944, with the loss of 78 crew members while on her 2nd war patrol. Flier was transiting on the surface when she was rocked by a massive explosion (probably a mine) and sank within less than a minute. 13 survivors, some injured, made it into the water and swam to shore. 8 survived and 6 days later friendly natives guided them to a Coast Watcher and they were evacuated by the USS Redfin.



USS S-39 (SS 144)

Lost on August 14, 1942 after grounding on a reef south while on her 3rd war patrol. The entire crew was able to get off and rescued by the HMAS Katoomba. S-39 grounded on submerged rocks off Rossel Island and took on a 35° list to port. The crew was rescued. The S-39 was abandoned and left to "break up" on the rocks.



USS Harder (SS 257)

Lost on August 24, 1944 with the loss of 79 crew members from a depth charge attack by a minesweeper near Bataan while on her 6th war patrol. Harder had won a Presidential Unit Citation for her first 5 war patrols and CDR Dealey, "a submariner's submariner," was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously. Harder is tied for 9th in the number of enemy ships sunk.



USS Cochino (SS 345)

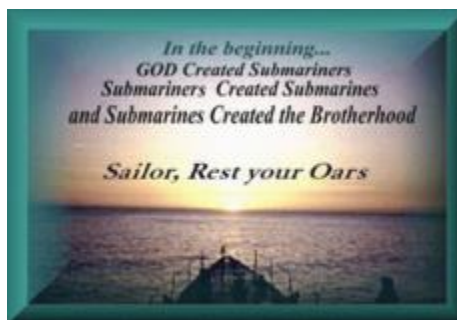
Lost on August 26, 1949 after being jolted by a violent polar gale off Norway caused an electrical fire and battery explosion that generated hydrogen and chlorine gasses. In extremely bad weather, men of Cochino and Tusk (SS-426) fought to save the submarine for 14 hours. After a 2nd battery explosion, Abandon Ship was ordered, Cochino sank. Tusk's crew rescued all of Cochino's men except for one civilian engineer. Six sailors from Tusk were lost during the rescue.



USS Pompano (SS 181)

Lost on August 29, 1943 (between Aug 8 and Sept 27) with the loss of 77 men while on her 7th war patrol. Before being lost, she sank two enemy cargo ships. The exact cause of her loss remains unknown, but she probably fell victim to a mine. This boat's last known ship sunk happened on Sept 25th, so she probably hit that mine on or after that date but before Oct 5th, when she was scheduled back at Midway.

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





USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE NEWS

BASE COMMANDER'S REPORT



Hello Shipmates,

I'm going to keep this shorter than usual this month. The month started off with a bang with us combining with the Brazos Valley and Heart of Texas Bases to be in the Belton 4th of July Parade. While it was hot as expected we got lucky and had some good cloud cover during the staging period and the temps didn't heat up too bad until the end. We had great representation from all 3 bases and as promised the crowds were huge and really supported us. Thanks to everyone who made this possible.

Your E-board met early in the month to go over a few things and look at the next quarter for the base. Everything discussed was shared at the July base meeting and the meeting minutes are included here in this newsletter.

While I was not there the base met on July 20th and looks to me like you all had a pretty good meeting. I was happy to see the base voted to provide \$1500 in support to the Georgetown Field of Honor. I think you all made a great decision in supporting this very worthy cause which will help in all of our stated purposes including promoting the submarine force, supporting local veterans and children's causes and it will allow us to also pay tribute to our own CTB members on Eternal Patrol. I think this is a great thing. We still have a little more money to designate, and I know a few organizations have been mentioned already and want to encourage you to let us know of anymore that you think should be considered and why. We will be discussing and voting on this during our August Base Meeting.

I was also excited to see you all agreed on a design and purchase of challenge coins for our base. This is something I was hoping would get done for some time. I've seen some proofs for these coins and am looking forward to getting the final ones and we will share with you soon. Thanks to Bill Scott for stepping up and taking the lead in making this happen!

At our August meeting I will have raffle tickets for distribution to you all for our annual raffle. We are starting a little later than planned but we should have plenty of time (about 3 months) to get the tickets sold. I know selling raffle tickets isn't a favorite of everyone, but I ask you to consider stepping up and taking an active part in this critical effort to raise funds for our base. These funds allow us to keep costs down at our social events and more importantly allow us to work with and support other veterans' organizations in our own community. This year's raffle will not be vendor specific, but we will be raffling off Visa gifts cards in the amount of \$1000, \$750, \$500, and \$250. Tickets will be sold for \$10 each or 3/\$25.

In closing I just wanted to thank everyone for all your support and encouragement and stepping up where needed during this very challenging time for Carla and me. It has really meant a lot to us seeing and feeling everyone's support. Thank you!

Thank You all for everything you do. Feel free to reach out to me anytime. Email, Phone, Text are all great!

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



"Cybersecurity Tips"

Copied from the Monthly Austin Energy cybersecurity newsletter.

Phishing Attacks Becoming Harder To Detect

Overview

Phishing attacks have become the most common method cyber attackers use to target people at work and at home. Phishing attacks have traditionally been emails sent by cyber attackers to trick you into doing something you should not do, such as opening an infected email attachment, clicking on a malicious link, or sharing your password. While traditional phishing attacks continue today, many cyber attackers are creating advanced phishing emails that are more customized and harder to detect. They are also using technologies such as text messaging, social media, or even telephone calls to engage and fool you. Here are their latest

tricks and how you can spot them.

Cyber Attackers Are Doing Their Research

Phishing emails used to be easier to detect because they were generic messages sent out to millions of random people. Cyber attackers had no idea who would fall victim; they just knew the more emails they sent, the more people they could trick. We could often detect these simpler attacks by looking for odd emails with "Dear Customer" in the beginning, misspellings, or messages that were too good to be true, such as Nigerian princes offering you millions of dollars

Today's cyber attackers are far more sophisticated. They now research their intended victims to create a more customized attack. Instead of sending out a phishing email to five million people, or appearing to be generic emails sent by corporations, they may send it to just five people and tailor the attack to appear to be sent from someone we know. Cyber attackers do this by:

- researching our LinkedIn profiles, what we post on social media, or by using information that is publicly available or found on the Dark Web.
- crafting messages that appear to come from management, coworkers, or vendors you know and work with.
- learning what your hobbies are and sending a message to you pretending to be someone who shares a mutual interest.
- determining you have been to a recent conference or just returned from a trip and then crafting an email referencing your travels.

Cyber attackers are actively using other methods to send the same messages, such as texting you or even calling you directly by phone.

How to Detect These More Advanced Phishing Attacks

Because cyber attackers are taking their time and researching their intended victims, it can be more difficult to spot these attacks. The good news is you can still spot them if you know what you are looking for. Ask yourself the following questions before taking action on a suspicious message:

1. Does the message create a heightened sense of urgency? Are you being pressured to bypass your organization's security policies? Are you being rushed into making a mistake? The greater the pressure or sense of urgency, the more likely this is an attack.
2. Does the email or message make sense? Would the CEO of your company urgently text you asking for help? Does your supervisor really need you to rush out and buy gift cards? Why would your bank or credit card company be asking for personal information they should already have about you? If the message seems odd or out of place, it may be an attack.
3. Are you receiving a work-related email from a trusted coworker or perhaps your supervisor, but the email is using a personal email address such as @gmail.com?
4. Did you receive an email or message from someone you know, but the wording, tone of voice or signature in the message is wrong and unusual?

If a message seems odd or suspicious, it may be an attack. If you want to confirm if an email or message is legitimate, one option is to call the individual or organization sending you the message with a trusted phone number.

You are by far the best defense. Use common sense.

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USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE E-BOARD MEETING MINUTES - 6 JULY 2022

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Location: VFW Post 8587

Members present: Rick Mitchell, Gene Hall, Virgil Claycamp, Frank Abernathy, Bill Scott

We opened with a round robin discussion for any comments or thoughts before we got started that were not on the agenda. Gene added info that the City of Round Rock is hoping to get back started with the Memorial Park project this fall. The project is almost 2 years behind schedule but hoping to get going soon.

We discussed the events and happening revolving around our shipmates Charles Matula going on his eternal patrol:

- Recent funds received as donations for Matula Funeral
2 checks were given to Carl and me. I wrote mine to the base and Carl wrote most of his to base after deducting for gas and other expenditures which is very appropriate. I think leaving these with the base and dumping in the memorial fund is appropriate? E-Board concurred and will discuss at next base meeting.
- Additionally, the family asked in the Obit for donations to be made to the base and we have received \$300 + due to this. I would like to have this money sent directly to the USSVI CF and in turn have them make a note on the web page noting the individual donors. E-board concurred and will discuss at next base meeting.
- Georgetown Field of Honor and who else to give our donations to?
We have designated \$3000 for give out this year. I would like to consider giving/sponsoring Field of Honor for \$1500 this year. It I not entirely a donation as we would receive some services for this in the form of advertising and some flags but much of the money goes through to other deserving veterans nonprofits. Think it's a win win but we need to discuss. E-board concurred and will discuss with membership and vote on this at next meeting.
- Others
\$500 for Patriot Guard
\$500 for Wilco Blue Star Mothers
\$500 ?
Who else?
- Base Raffle
Do we, or Don't We? I believe the base at last meeting said yes but...
I hope we do but we all need to make better effort in sales (I will make a cheat sheet)
Bass Pro or Other Vendor or straight Up Gift Cards?
We are conducting the raffle and it will be Visa gift cards.
- Float update
Tank on hand at Jakes
- Plans for next quarter
Base Ball Game – We discussed a group outing at the RR express however instead of general seating having a covered area or suites just for us. We think this is a good idea but tabling it until next year until we discuss more with base and get everyone's thoughts. Cost will be about \$50 per person and it does include free food and parking.

Axe Throwing- Seems to be the new in thing and Tim @ CenTex Axe has agreed to give us a break and arrange an exclusive event just for us. Will let the base know and get this going.
Social will be September 18th and we are looking at a possible location in Cedar Park at this time.
- Things you want to add/remove from meetings - No Comments
- Ideas for group outings (besides socials) – No comments
- Next year's Officer Slate – We discussed where we all stood as far as staying put or stepping down and all of us are willing to stay put but also would like to see others step up where we had multiple people willing to do jobs and run. None of us had any good ideas on how to better encourage this.

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USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MEETING MINUTES - 20 JULY 2022

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Location: VFW Post 8587

Meeting opened at 19:00 pm by Gene Hall, Central Texas Vice-Base Commander.

Meeting opened at 19:03 by Gene Hall, Vice Commander.

E-Board was present with the exception of Rick Mitchell (family emergency) and Virgil Claycamp (travel)

Sailing List: 21 Local Total, NO ZOOM Meeting

Binnacle List: Rick and Carla Mitchell's daughter, Jennifer Lynn Dayton passed away on 17 July 2022. Services held 23 July 2022. Carla Mitchell had back surgery and is recovering well. Mike Gauthier and family are feeling the affects of Covid.

Bob Steinmann: Led the base in our opening Prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance: Gene Hall

Tolling of the Boats – July: Gene Hall with Frank Espinosa Tolling the Bell

Officer and Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report: none

Kaps 4 Kids (Shawn O'Shea) Hospitals still providing no access. If you have any suggestions for possible locations we can go to, please contact Shawn.

Parade (Tom Sprague): Not Present. No report for this period.

Memorial (Gene Hall): City of Round Rock will go ahead with the project while they continue to work with the Insurance Company. Torpedo is still in the CONEX box.

Membership (Chuck Malone): 81 Current Members, 48 USSVI National Life, 23 Regular Annual, 40 Base Life, 41 Holland Club, 70 War Vets and 1 Associate Member and 1 Prospect. See Chuck if you don't have your Submarine Veteran Longevity Pin.

Birthdays 2022: 7/8 Rick Mitchell, 7/19 Joe Kruppa, 7/12 James Gee, 7/16 Chuck Trahan, 7/16 Carl Scott and 7/24 Don McGriff.

Unfinished, Ongoing and Old Business

June Social: The June Social at Berry Springs Park was enjoyed by all. Over 50 folks attended. Don Atkins, the Holland Club Chair inducted the following 5 members into the Holland Club: Ed Carr, Gene Hall, Don McGriff, David Miller and Harry Boyer.

Charles Matula Memorial Service: On 18 Jun 2022, Carl Repp, Sam Amato and Gene Whitenack went "Above and Beyond" to support the family during this time and arranged and conducted his service. In appreciation the Matula Family donated \$750 to the Base. Additionally, Friends of the Matula Family have been sending donations in his Honor; currently totaling \$565. The \$750 donation will be placed in the Central Texas Base's Memorial Fund and the \$565 will be sent to the USSVI Charitable Fund.

At Gene Whitenack's prompting a Shadow Box was built for the Matula Family which held a US Flag, an Eternal Patrol Certificate, Dolphins and Challenge Coin of his qualifications boat, the USS Growler. The Shadow box was presented to, and well received by, his wife Judith.

In the future is it suggested that as a lasting memorial from our Base, in lieu of flowers, a Shadow Box be made for future Eternal Patrol Members. The cost is approximately \$150 per box and would come from our Base Memorial Fund.

A Motion was raised by Don Atkins to Reimburse Rick for the expense for Charles Matula's Shadow Box. The Motion was Seconded by Bill Scott and after discussion of the members present; was Approved by ALL Present. The Treasurer will be directed to disburse these funds from the Memorial Fund, \$100.00 to Rick Mitchell (Rick requested \$100 rather than the full \$150).

OLD Business:

Charitable Contributions: \$3000 was approved in the 2022 Budget for distribution this year.

We had discussed a \$1500 donation (Freedom Level) to the Fields of Honor event in Georgetown this year, 5th to 12th of Nov 2022.

The Fields of Honor organization supports many Veteran and First Responder groups.

This year the Tunnel to Towers Display will be present.

With our Sponsorship we receive the following:

- ¼ Page AD in their Program
- We can hang a 3'x5' banner at the event
- Mention on their Website
- Weekly mentions in the Rotary Newsletter
- Our Logo on various promotional items at the field
- 2 VIP tickets in the tent for the opening ceremony (distribution to be determined later)
- 2 Tickets to BBQ at the end of the program, highly sought after.
- 8 Flags for Posting in the Field

The 8 flags will be posted in Memorial to our 8 most recent members on Eternal Patrol, and could be a way of honoring our Eternal Patrol members each year. There is a nominal charge, currently \$10/flag to repost in following years.

A Motion was raised by Chuck Trahan to move forward with this Donation. The Motion was Seconded by Carl Repp and after discussion of the members present; was Approved by ALL Present. The Treasurer will be directed to disburse these funds from the Budget Line Item, \$1,500.00 to Fields of Honor.

The Remaining \$1,500.00 is still open to discussion at the next meeting. The current organizations being suggested: Patriot Guard, WILCO Blue Star Mothers, Burnet County Vet Ride Program. If you have others to consider bring them to the August meeting and be prepared to present your reason for consideration.

Recent POC's: None

Base Float (Rick Mitchell): Rick travelled to Alvin to pick up two Drop Tanks to use in constructing our replacement Float. They were taken to Jake's place in Granger. Jake Ferrigan will be heading the team to start on creating a new float and trailer. Please contact Jake if you would like to join this effort. The trailer part of this is still under discussion. Rick spent \$122.78 out of pocket for gas, etc. for this trip.

A Motion was raised by Bill Scott to Reimburse Rick for this expense. The Motion was Seconded by Garrett Onderdonk IV and after discussion of the members present; was Approved by ALL Present. The Treasurer will be directed to disburse these funds from the Memorial Fund, \$122.78 to Rick Mitchell.

New Business.

Annual Base Raffle: We will be selling Raffle Tickets for \$10 each or 3/\$25. The prizes will be Visa Cash Gift Cards in the amounts of \$1000, \$750, \$500 and \$250. The tickets should be ready to be distributed at the August Meeting and the drawing will be on or around Veterans Day.

Base Challenge Coin

Bill Scott, at the direction of the Base Commander has been looking into the design and purchase of a Challenge Coin for the Base. Bill presented the designs by a couple of Vendors. Bill's design proposal was sent to "SS Challenge Coins" and "Milcoin.com".

The responses were reviewed by the members and the SS Challenge Coin submission was chosen.

Bill Scott is personally underwriting the initial 100 coins.

A Motion was raised by Joe Keller to move forward with Bill's acquisition of the coins. The Motion was Seconded by Garrett Onderdonk IV and after discussion of the members present; was Approved by ALL Present. Bill Scott will proceed with this process.

AXE Throwing: Rick suggested this as another new and different gathering for us. Unfortunately, the required number of members needed to make this work for the 28th of July event at Central TexAxe in Round Rock did not sign up by the Friday, 22 July registration deadline; and the event was cancelled. There were only 7 of the required 12 confirmed at the deadline.

Good of the Order

50/50 Raffle – \$37 of the \$74 Pot was won by Bill Scott, who gave it to the Base.

Social Media: If you use Social Media, please Like, Follow and be active on our sites.

United States Submarine Veterans. Facebook

USSVI Central Texas Base. Facebook

US Submarine Veterans. @ussubvets

Central Texas Base – United State Submarine Veterans, Inc. <http://ussvicentraltexasbase.org>

Next Meeting – 17 August 2022 19:00 at VFW Post 8587 and Zoom.

Sailing List

Base Members: Local at the VFW Post 8587 (21): Gene Hall, Shawn O'Shea, Garrett Onderdonk III, Garrett Onderdonk IV, Frank Espinosa, Hubert Jackson, Bill Scott, Frank Abernathy, Carl Repp, Eric Heter, Chuck Trahan, Sam Amato, Harry Ullman, Jack Collins, Chuck Malone, Bob Steinmann, Don Atkins, Joe Keller, Ed Carr, Harry Boyer.

Meeting Adjourned by Gene Hall, 2012 hours

Minutes submitted by Frank Abernathy, Secretary, 25 July 2022

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BASE TREASURER'S REPORT

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15 June 2022

Financial Report for Period Ending 6/30/2022

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Beginning Balance - 6/1/2022 | \$28,740.19 |
| RBFCU Checking (General Fund) | \$24,667.95 |
| RBFCU Savings (Memorial Fund) | \$3,827.62 |
| Un-cleared Checks | -\$69.50 |
| Ending Balance - 6/30/2022 | \$28,426.07 |

Submitted: Virgil Claycamp, Treasurer

AUGUST 2022



- Garrett Onderdonk IV - 4th
- Byron Sage - 5th
- Leonard Snyder - 9th
- Garrett Onderdonk III - 12th
- Hubert Jackson - 18th
- Virgil Claycamp - 27th
- Jack Bellinoff - 21st

CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MEMBERSHIP

Report presented to Base Commander w/copy to the Yeoman.

| | |
|--|----|
| Members listed in Central Texas Database | 81 |
| Regular Annual Members | 23 |
| National Life Members | 48 |
| Base Life Members | 40 |
| Holland Club Members | 41 |
| Associate Members | 1 |
| Dual Members | 4 |
| Prospective Members: | 0 |
| War Veterans | 70 |
| Members pending: | 0 |

Submitted: Chuck Malone, Membership

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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.

=====
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 Base Commander Rick Mitchell and his family on the passing of his daughter Jenni on Sunday July 17th.

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

24 - 27 August 2022, USSVI National Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 2 Fountain Plaza, Buffalo, NY.

17 September 2022, Base Quarterly Social, Details TBD.

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

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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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The Mop

My 4 year old son spilled his cola on the rug the other day, and wanted to clean up the mess himself. So, I told him that the mop was just outside the back door. Quickly, he ran to the door, but realized that it had become dark outside.

Suddenly scared, he told me what the problem was. Assuring him, I told him that Jesus is everywhere, even in dark places, and that he'll always protect him. This put a smile on his face!

So, he opened the door just enough to poke his head outside and called out, "Jesus, if you're out there, could you pass me the mop?"

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Marriage Made in Heaven
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On their way to a justice of the peace to get married, a couple has a fatal car accident. The couple is sitting outside Heaven's gate waiting on St. Peter to do the paperwork so they can enter. While waiting, they wonder if they could possibly get married in Heaven. St. Peter finally shows up and they ask him.

St. Peter says, "I don't know, this is the first time anyone has ever asked. Let me go find out," and he leaves. The couple sit for a couple of months and begin to wonder if they really should get married in Heaven, what with the eternal aspect of it all. "What if it doesn't work out?" they wonder, "Are we stuck together forever?" St. Peter returns after yet another month, looking somewhat bedraggled. "Yes," he informs the couple, "you can get married in Heaven." "Great," says the couple, "but what if things don't work out? Could we also get a divorce in Heaven?" St. Peter, red-faced, slams his clipboard onto the ground. "What's wrong?" exclaims the frightened couple. "Well!" St. Peter exclaims, "It took me three months to find a priest up here! Do you have any idea how long it's going to take for me to find a lawyer?"



The previous Undersea Warfare News weekly news bulletin email articles have been discontinued. I have been saving articles of interest posted on Google News website and at for publishing in The Deck Log. Some of the following articles were downloaded from "The Broadcast, Official Newsletter of Commander Submarine Force www.sublant.usff.navy.mil. All other articles are supported by the appropriate URL for the articles."



SWEDEN'S NEW BLEKINGE-CLASS SUBMARINE COULD BE RUSSIA'S NIGHTMARE

By [Brent M. Eastwood](#), July 5, 2022

[Sweden's New Blekinge-Class Submarine Could Be Russia's Nightmare - 19FortyFive](#)



Sweden's industrial base is becoming more active in delivering the military hardware that can make the country a leader in readiness as it prepares to join NATO. Indeed, Saab may soon have another hit on its hands. Its next-generation submarine has come one step closer to fruition.

On June 30, the Royal Swedish Navy laid the keel of the A26 Blekinge-class submarine – the lead boat in a class of two. The Blekinge-class can stay submerged for 18 days and is bigger than the Gotlund-class, itself a formidable submarine, which the Blekinge-class will replace toward the end of the decade.

Saab Stakes Its Claim

Saab is excited about the Blekinge-class, and the company's CEO crowed about the virtues of the new sub in an interview with Naval News.

"The submarine competence places Sweden among one of few nations in the world with the capability to build modern and advanced submarines" Saab CEO Micael Johansson said. "The ceremony is not only a milestone for HMS Blekinge, it is also proof that Sweden has regained the capability. We are looking forward to when her sister HMS Skåne will follow in her tracks."

The Blekinge-class has a long way to go before entering service. Final delivery is not expected until 2027 or 2028. Nevertheless, the keel laying is a significant milestone along its acquisition path. It has taken five years of development to get the Blekinge to this point. The Swedish military first ordered the subs in 2015. Construction began in 2017 at the Saab Kockum's shipyard in Karlskrona, where Sweden has built ships for 300

years.

The Swedes Are Serious About Undersea Warfare

The Swedish navy has invested \$840 million into the Blekinge-class program in an effort to improve on the Cold-war era Södermanland-class of diesel electric subs.

The Blekinge-class is planned to be as silent as ever – the Swedes excel in noise cancellation technology for undersea warfare. The Blekinge is conventionally powered, but it will have flexible mountings to help reduce transient noise, withstand shocks, and lessen the chances of detection by an enemy. The sub's frame will better absorb noise, and the air ducts and pipes will be quiet as well.

The Blekinge will be around 217 feet long. It will displace nearly 2,000 tons. These subs will also be able to sneak close to shore to insert teams of special operations forces personnel, and this “multi-mission portal” will also deploy unmanned subs. The Swedes hope the unmanned underwater vehicles use their intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance prowess to swim far ahead and gather targeting data for the Blekinge-class. The robotic craft can extend the range of sonar to give the manned submarine better survivability against enemy subs and destroyers. The drones can use active sonar as the Blekinge stays hidden. If an enemy detects the unmanned sub, the potential destruction of that vessel will not endanger the Blekinge, which could then stealthily exit the area of operations and live to fight another day.

Saab Has Become a Defense Powerhouse

Saab is perhaps better known for automobile production, but the firm has become an adept arms manufacturer in recent years. It has been posting more revenue and profit each quarter. Saab has a plan for what modern undersea warfare will look like during the next 20 years. While the Swedish navy will not dominate with its numbers of submarines, its unmanned subs will serve as a force multiplier. The Blekinge will be a robust and quiet boat that will help keep the Russian navy guessing in the waters of the Baltic Sea and beyond.

Now serving as 1945's Defense and National Security Editor, [Brent M. Eastwood](#), PhD, is the author of [Humans, Machines, and Data: Future Trends in Warfare](#). He is an Emerging Threats expert and former U.S. Army Infantry officer. You can follow him on Twitter [@BMEastwood](#).

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Meet Taiwan's 'Most Capable' Weapon Against China – Its 1st Indigenously Developed Submarine To Sink 'Invading Warships'

By [Parth Satam](#), July 17, 2022

<https://eurasianimes.com/meet-taiwans-most-capable-weapon-against-china-submarine/>

The Republic of China's (Taiwan) Navy's first indigenous diesel-electric attack submarine (SSK) will be launched next September, the island's CNA news agency reported. It is a decade ahead of the current Chien Lung class submarine purchased from the Netherlands. There are a total of eight submarines in the class of vessels.

The first submarine is being assembled at Kaohsiung City, slated to begin induction in the Republic of China (RoCN) Navy by 2025.

Scarce details based on a previously released scale model show an X-shaped rudder like the one on the Japanese Sōryū and Oyashio-class attack submarines.

The vessels weigh 2,500 tons and are 70 meters in length. A massive transfer of crucial technologies was approved under the President Donald Trump administration, with Reuters reporting that engineers from Korea, India, Canada, and other nations were assisting China Shipbuilding Corporation, Taiwan's national shipbuilder, in the construction of the eight submarines of the class.

The submarine is expected to use US-origin 18 MK-48 Mod-6 1700 kilograms torpedoes and UGM-84L Harpoon missiles in 2020.

According to [Navy Recognition](#), a version of the US Navy's AN/BYG-1 submarine combat management system, used in its nuclear submarines, is being offered to Taiwan, with Lockheed Martin serving as the systems integrator.

The submarine is hoped to add to the asymmetric capabilities that Taiwan would require to withstand an attack by the People's Republic of China (PRC), less focused on meeting the outsized Chinese adversary head-on, instead preventing their landing on the island by laying mines and striking Chinese transports carrying troops, supplies, tanks, and war material.

Major General Sun Lifang, spokesman of the Ministry of National Defense, said at the press conference that the national construction of submarines is one of the significant national defense independent plans.

Apart from the Chien Lung class, Taiwan’s current submarine force consists of four submarines: ROCS Hai Lung and ROCS Hai Hu; the World War Two vintage Trench-class submarines ROCS Hai Shih and ROCS Hai Pao were obtained from the US in the 1970s.

The last two were modernized to the Greater Underwater Propulsion Power Program (GUPPY) standard and painstakingly maintained by the Taiwanese Navy to be combat operational.

The submarine’s construction plan was boosted after Taiwan’s Parliament passed an extra \$8.6 billion spending bill, in response to repeated shows of force by the People’s Republic of China (PRC), following 970 Chinese jets flying into its Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) in 2021. This was more than double the 380 carried out in 2020 alone.

Taiwan’s Symmetric Vs. China’s Asymmetric Threat

Taiwan and its military face the handicap of being saddled with an enormous legacy, defense platforms against the PRC’s more asymmetric threats, which include swarms of several thousand small boats, jets, ships, missiles, and drones to overwhelm and swallow any resistance.

Pentagon-commissioned wargames by the RAND Corporation showed the devastating US and Taiwanese defeats before such a Chinese attack.

The EurAsian Times had reported how Taiwan’s former Chief of General Staff (CGS) Admiral Lee Hsin-min Overall Defense Concept (ODC), which envisages investing in such very cheap and otherwise simple platforms, was gathering dust owing to political exigencies.

These include extensive inventories of advanced UAVs for target acquisition, data linking, early-warning, mobile radar roles, and tactical reconnaissance; low-cost, short-range precision-guided munitions; stealth fast attack crafts and small missile boats dispersed and hidden across the island’s 200 fishing ports; flexible sea mine systems that even non-specialized mine-layers can drop; a massive array of quick reaction short and medium-range surface-to-air missiles; Harpoon Coastal Defense Systems (HCDS) to take out ships; large batteries of its own highly capable Hsiung Feng III land attack-cum-anti-ship missile; Man-Portable Air Defense Systems (MANPAD) and; High-Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS).

Primarily based on ‘fighting a swarm with a swarm,’ it practically affects a regular military (Taiwan’s) fighting a prolonged guerrilla war at a strategic level in a multi-layered campaign of attrition. But Taiwan outrightly implementing such programs means it has to tell its citizens to prepare for such an attack, jeopardizing the ruling Democratic People’s Party’s (DPP) political fortunes.

Eye-grabbing, menacing-looking F-16 jets, or M-109 Paladin Self-Propelled Howitzers (SPH) serve as a more reliable symbol of security before citizens, unlike low-key platforms like naval attack crafts or drones. Such defense reforms also put the DPP on the warpath with its opposing Kuomintang (KMT) party, which has often favored reuniting and reconciling with China – particularly the Communist Party of China (CPC), its former civil-war era opponent.

The author can be reached at satamp@gmail.com



General Dynamics Mission Systems Awarded \$272.9 Million Contract for US and UK Submarine Fire Control Systems

<https://www.prnewswire.com/.../general-dynamics-mission...>



PITTSFIELD, Mass., July 20, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- General Dynamics Mission Systems, a business unit of General Dynamics (NYSE: GD), announced today it was awarded a U.S. Navy contract to support development, production and installation of fire control systems for the Columbia- and Dreadnought-classes of ballistic missile submarines.

The contract as awarded has a value of \$272.9 million over the next six years. This contract is the second for General Dynamics Mission Systems and is comprised of develop-

ment, production and installation support for U.S. and U.K. submarine strategic weapons systems and sub-systems. It will also support strategic weapons systems upgrades on currently fielded U.S. and U.K. strategic ballistic missile submarines. Work will primarily be performed in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and is expected to be complete by July 2028.

General Dynamics Mission Systems' Maritime and Strategic Systems line of business will deliver the fire control system for the U.S. Navy's second and third Columbia-class submarine and the third U.K. Dreadnought class submarine as well as installation support and pre-deployment planning for both U.S. and U.K. sites. This contract also includes Columbia and Dreadnought design completion scope and continuation of design activities for the first planned refresh of the Columbia and Dreadnought fire control system.

"The U.S. Columbia and U.K. Dreadnought class submarines are of strategic importance to our nation and our allies. General Dynamics has been supporting previous submarine programs for more than 65 years and we are extending our support through the development, production and installation of mission critical systems for this new fleet of submarines," said Carlo Zaffanella, vice president and general manager at General Dynamics Mission Systems.

General Dynamics Mission Systems provides mission-critical solutions for defense, intelligence and cybersecurity customers across all domains. Headquartered in Fairfax, Virginia, General Dynamics Mission Systems employs approximately 13,000 people worldwide. More information about General Dynamics Mission Systems is available at gdmissonsyste.ms.com.

General Dynamics is a global aerospace and defense company that offers a broad portfolio of products and services in business aviation; ship construction and repair; land combat vehicles, weapons systems and munitions; and technology products and services. General Dynamics employs more than 100,000 people worldwide and generated \$38.5 billion in revenue in 2021. More information about General Dynamics is available at www.gd.com.

SOURCE General Dynamics Mission Systems

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Russia Scraps World's Largest Nuclear Submarine: Report

BY [ISABEL VAN BRUGEN](#) ON 7/20/22 AT 9:08 AM EDT

<https://www.newsweek.com/russia-navy-scraps-worlds...>

According to a report from Russian state media on Wednesday, the world's largest strategic nuclear ballistic missile submarine has been removed from the Russian naval fleet.

The state-run RIA Novosti news outlet, citing an unnamed Russian defense industry source, said the Dmitry Donskoy, a nuclear ballistic missile submarine that measures nearly 600 feet, has been decommissioned. "The submarine Dmitry Donskoy has been removed from the fleet and is to be scrapped," the source said.

The Typhoon-class submarine, the lead vessel of the Project 941 Akula class of ballistic missile submarines, has been in commission since 1980, the news outlet said.

The 600-foot Oscar II-class Belgorod nuclear submarine, which was commissioned earlier this month, will take Dmitry Donskoy's place as the largest submarine in the world, according to *The Moscow Times*.

The Russian Typhoon class submarine Dmitry Donskoy, which was once the world's largest in active service, has been decommissioned and removed from active service in the Russian Navy, according to a report from Russian state media. OLGA MALTSEVA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Naval analyst H I Sutton, citing Open Source Intelligence, said on June 26 that the Dmitry Donskoy was spotted on the surface of the White Sea.

"[Two] largest submarines in the world, Belgorod (K-239) and Dmitriy Donskoi (TK-208) (TYPHOON Class) caught on surface in White Sea," Sutton tweeted. "These subs are ginormous, much bigger than anything in the West, even the US Navy's Ohio Class."

It isn't clear why the two submarines were in the White Sea, close to Russia's northwestern coast.

In January 2021, a military insider source told Russia's state-run news agency TASS that the Russian Navy had no immediate plans to decommission Dmitry Donskoy.

"There are military training events planned for 2021 involving the cruiser. Decommissioning of the submarine is an issue of five years, at least," the source said.

The submarine had been due to be phased out over the coming decades by the new Borei class of nuclear-powered strategic submarines, according to a report from *The National Interest*.

Meanwhile, several unnamed sources in the shipbuilding industry and law enforcement agencies in the north of Russia offered conflicting information to TASS regarding the Dmitry Donskoy, following RIA Novosti's report.

A TASS source in the shipbuilding industry told the news agency that a decision on the future fate of the submarine would be made no earlier than December this year.

"Then the specialists will have to assess the technical condition of the ship and the stock of nuclear fuel," the source said.

"Recent reports about the withdrawal of Dmitry Donskoy from the Russian Navy do not correspond to reality. The ship is currently performing combat training tasks at sea, participating in combat training activities. It will remain in combat formation at least until the end of the year," another source told TASS.

Russian political scientist and military analyst Alexander Khramchikhin told Russian-language news outlet The Insider that vessels such as the Dmitry Donskoy are typically in commission for 20 to 30 years.

"The nuclear submarine 'Dmitry Donskoy' has long been used only as an experimental one. Naturally, it could not be used for military purposes in any way, except as a large-scale nuclear war," said Khramchikhin.

Military expert Alexei Sukonkin told NEWS.ru that the submarine is most likely past its shelf life.

Newsweek has reached out to Russian authorities for comment.



Funding for submarines approved by House

https://thebrunswicknews.com/.../article_1b170711-9f1c...

By GORDON JACKSON gjackson@thebrunswicknews.com

Funding for the continued development of Columbia-class, ballistic missile submarines for Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay is included in a measure passed by the lower chamber of Congress.

The funding is part of the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act approved by the U.S. House.

The new vessels will replace the aging fleet of Ohio-class submarines ported at Kings Bay and at the base in Bangor, Wash.

Kings Bay is currently undergoing a major renovation at a cost of more than \$1 billion to prepare the infrastructure for the new boats. They are expected to begin arriving later this decade.

U.S. Rep. Buddy Carter, R-1, praised the legislation approved by both sides of the House. Kings Bay, in southeastern Camden County, is in Carter's district.

"An unprepared military benefits no one but our enemies," Carter said. "By upgrading the submarine fleet at Kings Bay, we are bolstering the First District's military prowess and investing in the people who invest in our nation's security.

"This is an exciting win for our state and the nation. The next generation of submarine pilots have a bright future in Georgia."



Submarine Contractor Sets Sights on Building First US Next-Generation Nuclear Reactor

Will Wade, July 26, 2022

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/submarine-contractor-sets-sights-building-161145306.html>

(Bloomberg) -- A defense contractor that supplied components for the earliest nuclear submarines will be tapping its military expertise to enter the race to build the next generation of nuclear reactors.

BWX Technologies Inc. expects to complete a working prototype of a small, advanced reactor under a \$300-million contract with the US Department of Defense. Providing power plants to the military will facilitate the company's efforts to build a commercial version that could be ready by the end of the decade, according to Joe Miller, president of BWX's advanced technologies unit.

BWX is part of a wave of companies developing small nuclear plants that are expected to be faster and cheaper to build than the conventional reactors widely used today. While there's a growing sense that these advanced reactors could offer a key tool in the fight against climate change, the technology remains unproven and there are daunting hurdles in bringing it to market.

Still, the Lynchburg, Virginia-based company says that having a working system will help when it eventually seeks government approval for a commercial design. Its efforts are building on a long legacy of nuclear projects that originated within the military before shifting to civilian use.

"The whole nuclear industry is a creation of the military," Chris Gadomski, lead nuclear analyst for BloombergNEF, said in a Monday interview. "It's a very smart strategy."

The BWX reactor will have 1 to 5 megawatts of capacity, far smaller than commercial reactors operated by utilities that are typically about 1,000 megawatts. It will be small enough to deliver in four standard shipping containers and can be assembled on-site, Miller said in one of the first in-depth interviews since the deal was announced in June. The reactor can run for three years without being refueled—a major advantage over the 750-kilowatt diesel generators it's expected to replace—and could power a wide variety of military sites including bases, ports or hospitals. Some facilities might use more than one system.

While there's growing interest in carbon-free nuclear power as a key tool in the battle against climate change, there's also concern that building new conventional reactors can be costly and slow. The next generation of small plants is expected to address those issues, but the technology is still years away from becoming a reality.

BWX has been working on nuclear technology for decades. The company provided components for the Manhattan Project in the 1940s that developed the first atomic bombs. In the 1950s, it designed parts for the first nuclear submarine and then manufactured components of the world's first commercial reactor in Shippingport, Pennsylvania. Today, the firm supplies a variety of nuclear products and services for government and civilian projects, including naval vessels.

BWX expects to deliver the prototype to Idaho National Laboratory for testing in 2024, and it will likely be the first such small reactor in the US. Testing may take up to two years, and if all goes well, any branch of the military will be able to start using it in the field. The company plans to develop a commercial version of the reactor, a process that will probably require a few additional years to complete, putting it on track for use around 2030.

One of the major challenges will be securing the required US Nuclear Regulatory Commission permit, though Miller said having military systems in operation would validate the technology and provide "a huge leap forward in the licensing process."

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Top 10 Submarine Movies You Should Watch

https://www.marineinsight.com/web-stories/top-10-submarine-movies-you-should-watch/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=top-10-submarine-movies-you-should-watch



Commander, Submarine Forces

<https://www.sublant.usff.navy.mil/>

[Commander, Submarine Forces | Facebook](#)



July 19, 1997, USS Seawolf (SSN 21) is commissioned at Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, Conn. The boat was the first of three Seawolf-class submarines to be built by the Navy.

A product of the Cold War to maintain US advantage over Soviet submarines, Seawolf was designed as a faster, better-armed eventual replacement for the Los Angeles-class nuclear-powered attack submarines.

[#USNavy](#) [#SubmarineForce](#) [#NavalHistory](#)

[Commander, Submarine Forces | Facebook](#)



July 18, 1981, USS Dallas (SSN 700) is commissioned at Groton, Conn. The Los Angeles-class nuclear-powered attack submarine is the first to be built with an all-digital fire control and sonar system.

The boat served the Navy for over 36 years before being decommissioned at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS) Bremerton on April 4, 2018.

Dallas carried out missions vital to national security, deployed 14 times, steamed over one million miles and visited over 30 countries.



There Is A Unique Military Relic Hiding In The Small Town Of Portsmouth, New Hampshire And The History Is Fascinating

Posted in [New Hampshire Attractions](#) July 26, 2022 by [Alex Borelli](#)

While most Americans likely know about the countless battlefields scattered throughout the United States – Gettysburg, Vicksburg, and Antietam to name just a few – these same people might not be familiar with the many decommissioned Navy submarines open for tours around the country. These vessels give visitors an opportunity to learn about another more-hidden side of American military history. One place where you can see a former member of the U.S. Navy fleet is Portsmouth, New Hampshire, home to the USS Albacore.

The USS Albacore was built in the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard - which, due to border disputes between Maine and New Hampshire, is now located within the former's jurisdiction - between 1952 and 1953. The submarine served the Navy from 1953 to 1972, when she was decommissioned.



The Albacore was never actually involved in any battles, serving instead as a guinea pig for naval experiments. She was a prototype for the Navy's nuclear-powered submarine force and was the first vessel built specifically to operate underwater instead of mainly on top of the water. After she was decommissioned, Portsmouth City Councilman Bill Keefe campaigned vigorously to have the Albacore returned to her place of birth. She finally came back to Portsmouth in 1985 and has been serving as a museum ever since.

When you visit the Albacore, first stop by the visitor center to buy your tickets. Admission is \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors and military veterans, \$4 for children ages five to fourteen years old, and free for active military members. The museum also offers discounts for families.



As well as serving as the ticketing office, the visitor center also showcases photos and artifacts both from the Albacore and other submarines. You can also find a gift shop within the visitor center that sells books and Albacore-themed items like cups, hats, and shirts.

To the right of the main entrance to the visitor center is the Memorial Garden which contains monuments to the crew members of submarines lost during World War II and the Cold War. One of these monuments memorializes the previous Albacore which is thought to have gone down off of Hokkaido, Japan in November 1944.



A granite dolphin, the symbol of those in the submarine service, is located behind the Albacore monument. There are also several benches located throughout the garden from which visitors can stop and remember those who gave their lives for their country.

After you get your tickets, be sure to check out the propeller field which is also next to the visitor center.



In this area you can view the main propeller from the Albacore as well as several smaller propellers including one from the USS Jack, in service from 1967 to 1990.

The first area of note inside the Albacore is the crew's sleeping quarters in the bow of the submarine. This was one of two main "berthing areas" for enlisted members of the crew and slept 26 servicemen.



You'll notice how tight the sleeping quarters were, especially for those who slept on the top bunks. These bunks were quite close to valves and other equipment.

The next notable stop is at the submarine's control panel. Kids - and kids at heart! - will have fun sitting at the controls, pretending they are operating the vessel and sounding the alarms.



Moving on, you'll eventually reach the Albacore's galley where all the submarine's food was prepared. Cooks, assisted by junior members of the crew, prepared breakfast, lunch, and dinner - as well as "soup down" (soup and sandwiches) and "mid rats" (or midnight rations for watch-standers) - for 55 officers and crewmembers.



Finally, down from the scullery, where everything used to prepare and serve meals was cleaned, is the mess deck.



On the mess deck crew members ate, watched evening movies, wrote letters, and played cards. Servicemen could also just grab a cup of coffee and relax here, too.

Touring the USS *Albacore* is a great, family-friendly way to learn about America's military past. You are able to see how Navy servicemen during the Cold-War era lived and worked aboard a vessel which was one of the

first of its kind. If you are ever in southern New Hampshire do not miss this fun, educational attraction. To learn more about touring this vessel, be sure to check out [the Albacore's website](#) and [the submarine's Face-book page](#). When you're done with your tour, recharge with a burger and shake at [BRGR Bar](#). Have you been aboard the *Albacore*? Let us know about your visit in the comments!

Address: USS Albacore Museum, 600 Market St, Portsmouth, NH 03801, USA



Woods Hole-based 'Alvin' submarine making underwater exploration history again

[Doug Meehan](#), July 28, 2022

<https://www.wcvb.com/article/woods-hole-alvin-submarine-underwater-history-again/40743093>

Falmouth, Mass. - One of the most recognized and the most widely-used deep-submergence vessels in the world, Woods Hole-based Alvin, is reaching new heights by going to depths it's never reached before.

Last week, [Alvin](#) and its crew of three, dove nearly 4 miles down into the Puerto Rico Trench north of San Juan.

"As far as milestones are concerned, this is certainly up there," said Andy Bowen, the director of the [National Deep Submergence Facility](#) at [Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute](#).

Bowen said the dive was a critical part of the recertification of Alvin after an 18-month, \$50 million overhaul and upgrade to the sub's capabilities.

"That dive is essentially the sort of crowning achievement of, if you will, this most recent upgrade. The main portion of which involved the addition of a new hull for Alvin," Bowen said.

Beyond increasing Alvin's range, the upgrades put nearly all of the oceans' floors within in reach of the longest operating and most successful human-occupied submersible program in the world.

"The idea that the submersible can now reach the 99% of the sea floor and the ocean above, it is almost certainly going to result in astounding amount of expected discoveries," Bowen said.

Alvin was launched in 1964. In the 58 years since, the little white submarine has conducted [almost 5,100 successful dives](#).

"The milestone dive last week really is critical I think in enabling our scientists to reach a new part of the ocean that to a large degree has been unexplored," Bowen said.

Alvin's most famous and iconic dives was in 1986 when Robert Ballard used the vessel to first explore the wreck of the [RMS Titanic](#).



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS



Convention news from the Convention Chair, Fred Marazita:

Monday, July 4, 2022 at 04:26:36 PM CDT

Subject: 2022 National Convention

RD's and DC's Please pass this information concerning the 2022 USSVI National Convention to your Base Commanders and their membership

Time is running short to sign up for the National Convention and to reserve your hotel room.

Among the things going on during the Convention that is not on the reservation form or website is the courtesy of "The Draft Room" which supports the USSVI.

During the entire Convention, The Draft Room will be offering \$1.00 off all drinks for SubVets attending the convention.

And on Thursday night, from 5 PM to 9 PM they will be recognizing the SubVets with a mixer in the Draft

Room. In addition to \$1.00 off of all drinks, they will be donating an additional \$1.00 from all purchases to the USSVI Charitable Foundation.

Check them out at their website: <http://www.thedraftroombuf.com/> and plan on a great time.

See you in The Buff.

Fred "Fritz" Marazita
Buffalo Base - Home of the 2022 USSVI National Convention
Buffalo Base/EN5 District Commander

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Also, of additional note for any attending that like baseball:

Of special interest to any baseball fans attending this year's USSVI National Convention

As part of the USSVI National Convention, the Buffalo Bisons are offering discounted tickets to all who'd like to attend any of the Buffalo Bisons home games the week of August 22.

The Bisons have home games Tuesday, August 23 to Sunday, August 28.

Normal ticket pricing is \$13.00 to \$16.00. Check this link for special USSVI pricing.

<https://offer.fevo.com/united-states-submarine-veterans-6ec8696?fevoUri=united-states-submarine-veterans-6ec8696%2F>,

The Buffalo Bisons are a Minor League Baseball team of the International League and the Triple-A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays. Located in Buffalo, New York, the team plays their home games at Sahlen Field, the highest-capacity Triple-A ballpark in the United States.

Share this offer with family and friends!

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Doug Stevens <drstevens1@yahoo.com>

11:20 AM, 7/31/2022

To: All 2023 USSVI National Convention Registrants

The convention committee would like me to make you aware of an extracurricular event happening during the convention. On the evening of Thursday, August 25th, the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park will be hosting its annual Ship n Shore fundraiser. The Park is the location for our Tolling of the Boats ceremony the following day, and is home to three WWII era ships, including the USS Croaker (SSK-246).

The Park is about a three quarter of a mile walk, or there is also a trolley that picks up in front of the hotel and drops off about 500 feet from the Park.

Additional information can be found attached and at: [Ship N' Shore Fundraiser | Buffalo & Erie County Naval & Military Park \(buffalonaivalpark.org\)](#). Walk-up tickets to the event will be limited.

Note the Naval and Military Park is unaffiliated with USSVI, but proceeds to the event will go toward the care and preservation of the ships.

Any questions, please let me know.

Thank you,
Doug Stevens
Convention Treasurer

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USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2022-026

NEWS-01: USSVI VSO Newsletter for July 2022

Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO on 6/29/2022

Shipmates,

Supercharging Military Pay Raises Because of Inflation Being Weighed in Congress

August 2022

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/09/supercharging-military-pay-raises-because-of-inflation-being-weighed-congress.html?ESRC=mr_220613.nl

Everything You Need to Know About Flag Day

https://www.military.com/holidays/flag-day/everything-you-need-know-about-flag-day.html?ESRC=mr_220613.nl

VA Suspending Caregiver Reassessments as it Reviews Program

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/09/va-suspending-caregiver-reassessments-reviews-program.html?ESRC=mr_220613.nl

Estimated Cost of Toxic Exposure Bill More Than One-Quarter Trillion Dollars But Bipartisan Backing Holds

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/07/estimated-cost-of-toxic-exposure-bill-more-one-quarter-trillion-dollars-bipartisan-backing-holds.html?ESRC=mr_220613.nl

Veterans Swindled by Shuttered For-Profit Corinthian Colleges Get Loan Debt Erased

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/07/veterans-swindled-shuttered-profit-corinthian-colleges-get-loan-debt-erased.html?ESRC=mr_220613.nl

Veteran Status to Be Considered in Deportations Under New ICE Directive

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/08/veteran-status-be-considered-deportations-under-new-ice-directive.html?ESRC=mr_220613.nl

New VA Benefit Will Sell Guaranteed Life Insurance to Most Veterans

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/05/31/new-va-benefit-will-sell-guaranteed-life-insurance-most-veterans.html?ESRC=mr_220606.nl

They Are the Good Guys with Guns. After Another Mass Shooting, Veterans Want Change.

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/02/they-are-good-guys-guns-after-another-mass-shooting-veterans-want-change.html?ESRC=mr_220606.nl

VA Ordered to Report Performance of Troubled Health Records System to Congress

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/05/27/va-ordered-report-performance-of-troubled-health-records-system-congress.html?ESRC=mr_220606.nl

What Benefits Are You Eligible for As A Disabled Veteran?

https://www.military.com/benefits/disabled-veteran-benefits.html?ESRC=mr_220606.nl

The Top 10 Worst and Best States for Military Veterans and Retirees

https://www.military.com/military-transition/retirees/10-best-places-for-military-retirees.html?ESRC=mr_220530.nl

VA Offers \$20 Million in Prizes for New Ideas to Reduce Suicides Among Veterans

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/05/25/va-offers-20-million-prizes-new-ideas-reduce-suicides-among-veterans.html?ESRC=mr_220530.nl

Senators from Rural States Trying to Stop Wave of VA Hospital Closures Before They Start

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/05/24/senators-rural-states-trying-stop-wave-of-va-hospital-closures-they-start.html?ESRC=mr_220530.nl

Can Veterans Receiving VA Benefits Get Medicaid?

https://www.military.com/benefits/can-veterans-receiving-va-benefits-get-medicaid.html?ESRC=mr_220530.nl

The Top Three VA Loan Myths that Keep Service Members from Using Their Benefit

<https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/three-va-loan-myths-keep-service-members-using-benefit.html>

Some People May Face Reduced Social Security Benefits

https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/some-people-may-face-reduced-social-security-benefits.html?ESRC=navy-a_220615.nl

Senate Panel Adds Billions to Defense Budget But the Extra Money Wouldn't Go to Troop Pay Raises

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/16/senate-panel-adds-billions-defense-budget-extra-money-wouldnt-go-troop-pay-raises.html?ESRC=mr_220620.nl

Veterans Exposed to Agent Orange, Radiation, Toxic Water Included in Landmark Burn Pit Bill

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/16/veterans-exposed-agent-orange-radiation-toxic-water-included-landmark-burn-pit-bill.html?ESRC=mr_220620.nl

The Navy Fires Fourth Commander in Seven Days

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/15/navy-fires-fourth-commander-seven-days.html?ESRC=navy-a_220622.nl

Congress Eyes Extra Pay to Counter Wave of Suicides in Alaska and on Ships in the Yard

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/28/congress-eyes-extra-pay-counter-wave-of-suicides-alaska-and-ships-yard.html?ESRC=navy-a_220629.nl

Inflation Bonuses for Troops Make it into Sweeping Defense Bill

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/23/inflation-bonuses-troops-make-it-sweeping-defense-bill.html?ESRC=navy-a_220629.nl

This Famous Actor's Secret WWII Program Became a Precursor to the Navy SEALs

https://www.military.com/history/famous-actors-secret-wwii-program-became-precursor-navy-seals.html?ESRC=navy-a_220629.nl

Army Requirement for High School Diploma Amid Recruiting Crisis

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/24/army-drops-requirement-high-school-diploma-amid-recruiting-crisis.html?ESRC=navy-a_220629.nl



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2022-027

NEWS-01: New website

Submitted by: Tim Carlisle on 7/22/2022

Shipmates,

Good Afternoon USSVI - here is the latest regarding the website.

Everything is going smoothly with the new website and database - we believe barring some out-of-the-box, unforeseen issues, we will complete the project in August 2022.

In the coming months, we will develop "tools" training for all Base Commanders, Membership Chairs, Treasurers, District Commanders, and above. We still have a bit more training to complete ourselves and will continue to work on this critical item.

The new old, reconstructed site <http://ussubvets.org/home.asp>, is working very well, for reference purposes, membership editing, and the 2022 National Elections - we have repaired some minor issues, as is expected when rebuilding a site of this magnitude. I also wanted to let you know we installed our digital certificate yesterday (which may have caused some slowdown issues), so now the site shows as secure. We ordered the certificate quite a while ago and just received it. We made a risk-based decision to release the website - to serve our members the best we could.

Please bear in mind this site <http://ussubvets.org/home.asp> has been posted to serve as an interim until the Blackbaud Website is completed.

If you find a bug, fill out this bug report - we will get to it. Gerry Smith, our webmaster for this site, may reach out to you to test the fix. His email for bug fixes is ussvi@e911systems.com.

If you have questions, contact me at ussviwebsitequestions@gmail.com. I monitor the email and am happy to answer your questions. Talk to you next month!

Pride Runs Deep,

Tim Carlisle



Old Hillbilly Wisdom

Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.

Keep skunks, bankers, and politicians at a distance.

Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.

A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered, not yelled.

The best sermons are lived, not preached.

If you don't take the time to do it right, you'll find the time to do it twice.

Don't corner something that is meaner than you.

Don't pick a fight with an old man. If he is too old to fight, he'll just kill you.

It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Every path has a few puddles.

When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

Don't be banging your shin on a stool that's not in the way.

Borrowing trouble from the future doesn't deplete the supply.

Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.

Don't judge folks by their relatives.

Silence is sometimes the best answer.

Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none.

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.

The biggest troublemaker you'll ever have to deal with watches you from the mirror every mornin'.

Always drink upstream from the herd.

Good judgment comes from experience, and most of that comes from bad judgment.

Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.

If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around. Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time. Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God. Most times, it just gets down to common sense.



USSVI Heart of Texas Base - Members Group

Harvey McFadden, 7/9/2022

Only a submariner realizes to what great extent an entire ship depends on him as an individual. To a landsman this is not understandable, and sometimes it is even difficult for us to comprehend, but it is so!

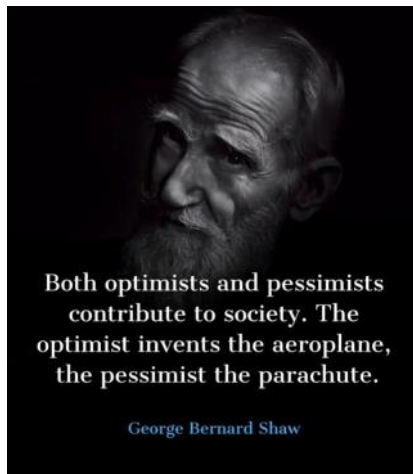
A submarine at sea is a different world in herself, and in consideration of the protracted and distant operations of submarines, the Navy must place responsibility and trust in the hands of those who take such ships to sea.

In each submarine there are men who, in the hour of emergency or peril at sea, can turn to each other. These men are ultimately responsible to themselves and each to the other for all aspects of operation of their submarine. They are the crew. They are the ship.

This is perhaps the most difficult and demanding assignment in the Navy. There is not an instant during his tour as a submariner that he can escape the grasp of responsibility. His privileges in view of his obligations are almost ludicrously small, nevertheless, it is the spur which has given the Navy its greatest mariners - the men of the Submarine Service.

It is a duty which most richly deserves the proud and time honored title of ... Submariner.

"I was that which others did not want to be. I went where others feared to go, and did what others failed to do."



You're either qualified, or you're not.

Richard James

July 10 at 10:50 PM ·

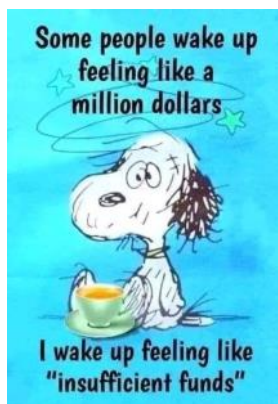
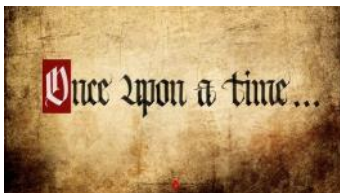
While checking out at Walmart the other day, the young naïve behind the counter, noticing my Submarine Veteran hat, thanked me for my service. He opined that he didn't think he could be on a Submarine.

I replied "Submarines are not for everyone". To which the lady behind me said "That's the best response I've ever heard. I guess it takes a special kind to serve on Submarines".

And I replied, "Yes. It takes a healthy balance of intelligence coupled with insanity. Integrity, with a dose of 'I don't give a shit'. " Then borrowing from Dr. Joyce Brothers I said "It's not bravery, but an intense insight into our own capabilities, and the knowledge that every man on the boat can and will do his job."

No, Submarines are not for everyone. And in the old Navy of just 20 or 30 years ago, we made sure that the man standing watch next to us knew his job and did it well. After testing and trying him, forcing feelings like self-pity and sorrow out of him, he was left with confidence and pride. Pride in his job, his boat, his service, his nation. Confidence in his abilities, and the abilities of every crewman who wore the Dolphins. When the hatch shut, and the boat slipped beneath the surface, Death would smile. But the Submariner, full of pride and confidence, would smile back.

No, young naïve, Submarines are not for everyone. Submariners are not a cut above the rest, they are cut from an entirely different cloth. There are average sailors, but no average Submariners. You are either qualified, or you're not.



Daryl

Four guys were at hunting camp. They had to bunk two to a room. No one wanted to room with Daryl because he snored so badly. They decided it wasn't fair to make one of them stay with him the whole time, so they voted to take turns.

The first guy slept with Daryl and comes to breakfast the next morning with his hair a mess and his eyes all bloodshot. The other two said, "Man, what happened to you?" He said, "Daryl snored so loudly, I just sat up and watched him all night."

The next night it was the second guy's turn. In the morning, same thing happens again, his hair is standing up, eyes all bloodshot.

The other two said, "Man, what happened to you? You look awful!"

He said, "Man, that Daryl shakes the roof. I sat up and watched him all night."

The third night was Frank's turn. Frank was a big burly ex-football player; a man's man. The next morning he came to breakfast bright eyed and bushy-tailed. "Good morning," he said. The other two couldn't believe it!

He looked rested and wide awake. They asked, "Man, what happened?"

He said, "Well, we got ready for bed. I went and tucked Daryl into bed, patted his butt and kissed him on the cheek good night. Daryl sat up and watched me all night."



Forgive your Enemies

Toward the end of the Sunday service, the minister asked, "How many of you have forgiven your enemies?"

A fair number held up their hands. The Minister then repeated his question. All responded this time, except one man, Walter Barnes.

"Mr. Barnes, are you not willing to forgive your enemies?"

"I don't have any," he replied gruffly.

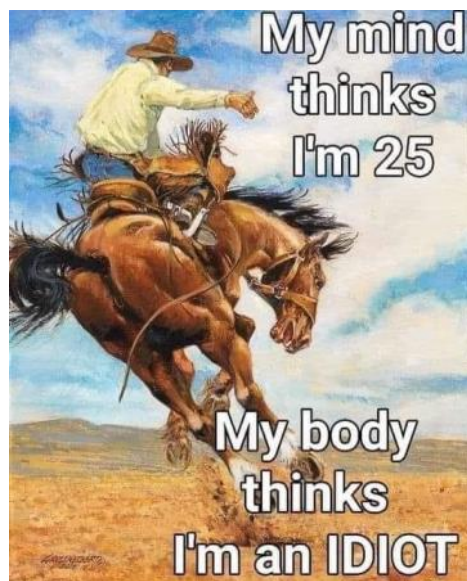
"Mr. Barnes, that is very unusual. How old are you?"

"Ninety-eight," he replied. The congregation stood up and clapped their hands.

"Oh, Mr. Barnes, would you please come down in front and tell us all how a person can live ninety-eight years and not have an enemy in the world?"

The old duffer tottered down the aisle, stopped in front of the pulpit, turned around, faced the congregation, and said simply, "I outlived all those bastards."

Then he calmly returned to his seat.



From Facebook Posts

Bobby Reed

7/8/2022, at 11:40 AM ·

WARNING: Unless you are a submariner, DO NOT watch this video. Submariners have always had a tight brotherhood. This bond cemented their reliance on each other, and their commitment to ensure their mission was completed - no matter what. Their work ethic was impeccable and their ability to party was just as intense. These were the days before "Bubble-heads" had to take a breathalyzer test before they could go below decks. If those rules were in place back in the sixties, my qual boat would have never gone on a single patrol. After the work was done, we crossed the brow and there was no way to know what was going to happen. So, let's go back to yesteryear and relive what "SQUIDS" did when they weren't working their Butts off. My latest video is called, "SQUIDS in Low Places." Welcome Aboard! BR

<https://www.facebook.com/1602831640/videos/431132568913687>

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4th of July Parade, Belton, TX
Central Texas Base, Brazos Valley Base, Heart of Texas Base

Facebook Post

[USSVI Central Texas Base](#) is with [Tom Williams](#) and 8 others

July 4 at 2:25 PM ·

A few pics from today's parade. Everyone from all 3 of our bases really enjoyed the hospitality and support from all the citizens of [Belton, Texas - City Government](#) and surrounding areas. Your welcome and support of us was tremendous. HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!









Some of the crew at the Longbranch Saloon for the 4th of July parade in Round Rock, TX

