



THE DECK LOG

USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE

OCTOBER 2022



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 13 October 1775 resolution of the Continental Congress established what is now the United States Navy with "a swift sailing vessel, to carry ten carriage guns, and a proportionable number of swivels, with eighty men, be fitted, with all possible despatch, for a cruise of three months...." After the American War of Independence, the U.S. Constitution empowered the new Congress "to provide and maintain a navy." Acting on this authority, Congress established the Department of the Navy on 30 April 1798.

In 1972, Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt authorized official recognition of 13 October as the birthday of the U.S. Navy. Since then, each CNO has encouraged a Navy-wide celebration of this occasion "to enhance a greater appreciation of our Navy heritage, and to provide a positive influence toward pride and professionalism in the naval service."

13 October 2022 will mark the Navy's 247th birthday. The central theme of this year is "On Watch - 24/7 for 247 Years," which highlights our Navy's enduring ability to remain fully ready to respond to and effectively deter emergent threats.

<https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/commemorations-toolkits/navy-birthday.html>

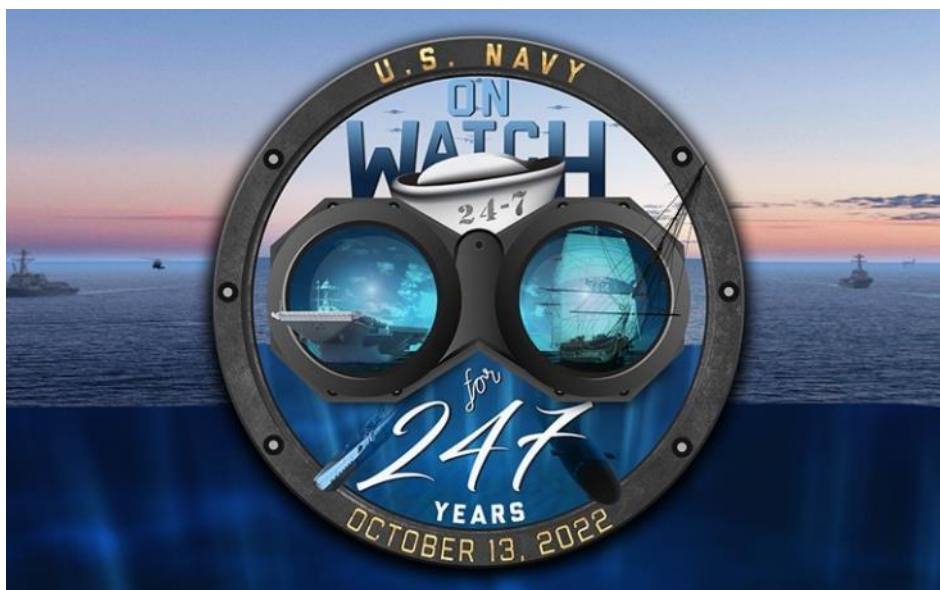


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EDITOR'S DESK



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 printed copy is mailed via USPS to those shipmates requesting a mailed copy.

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U.S. Submarine Service

JOIN USSVI

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.

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.



2021
Rick Mitchell
Bill Scott

2017 Tom
Williams

2010, 2014,
2017, 2020

2020 Base

2020
Bob Steinmann,
Hubert Jackson

2012, 2013, 2016,
2018, 2019, 2020,
2021, 2022

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/>



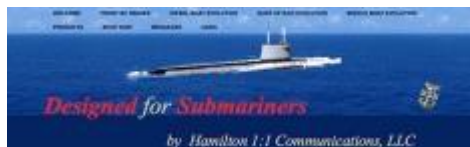
<http://www.submarinesailor.com>



<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 - OCTOBER

"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 Seawolf (SS-197)

Lost on Oct 3, 1944 with the loss of 83 officers and men and 17 US Army troops when she was sunk just north of Moritai by USS Rowell, a Destroyer Escort (DE). In this tragic error, Rowell mistook Seawolf for a Japanese submarine that had just sunk another Destroyer. Seawolf ranks 7th for enemy ships sunk.



USS S-44 (SS-155)

Lost on Oct 7, 1943 with the loss of 56 men when it was sunk off Paramushiru, Kuriles. S-44 was on her 5th war patrol after attacking a target thought to be a merchant on the surface, S-44 found herself in a losing gun battle with a heavily armed Japanese destroyer. Two men were taken prisoner and survived the war.



USS Wahoo (SS-238)

Lost on Oct 11, 1943 with the loss of 80 men near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, LCDR "Mush" Morton, Wahoo was on her 7th war patrol. Wahoo had won a Presidential Unit Citation and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. She was lost to depth charges dropped by a Japanese patrol aircraft.



USS Dorado (SS-248)

Lost on Oct 12, 1943 with the loss of 77 men when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, she had departed New London and was enroute to Panama. She may have been sunk by a U.S. patrol plane that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or a German U-boat that was in the vicinity.



USS Escolar (SS-294)

Lost on Oct 17, 1944 with the loss of 82 men. She was on her 1st war patrol and was most likely lost to a mine somewhere in the Yellow Sea.



USS Shark II (SS-314)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 with the loss of 87 men when she was sunk near Hainan. The second boat to carry this name during World War II, she was on her 3rd war patrol. Shark was sunk by escorts after attacking and sinking a lone freighter. Compounding the tragedy, it turned out that the freighter had 1,800 U.S. POW's on board.



USS Darter (SS-227)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 when she became grounded on Bombay Shoal off Palawan and was then destroyed to prevent her falling into enemy hands intact. The entire crew was rescued by USS Dace. Winner of one Navy Unit Commendation, Darter had sunk a heavy cruiser and damaged another and went aground while attempting an "end around" on an enemy formation in hopes of getting in an attack on a battleship.



USS Tang (SS-306)

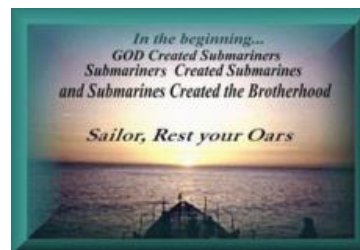
Lost on Oct 25, 1944 with the loss of 78 men in the Formosa Strait. Tang was on her 5th war patrol. Tang ranks 2nd in the number of ships sunk and 4th in tonnage, and had won two Presidential Unit Citations. During a daring night surface attack, Tang was lost to a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. Nine of the crew were taken prisoner, including CDR. O'Kane and five who had gained the surface from her final resting place 180 feet below. All survived the war, and CDR O'Kane was



USS O-5 (SS-66)

Lost on October 29, 1923 with the loss of 3 men when rammed and sunk by SS Ababarez off the Panama Canal.

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



Greetings Shipmates,

I think I see Fall out there on the horizon! As you all know, it's been a long hot summer this year. Our base has weathered it rather well though. Things have been a little slow but steady. We started off by attending the Tolling in Fredericksburg hosted by our neighbors, the P. C. Stryker Base. We then had a great social at Berry Springs in June. In July we combined forces with the Heart of Texas and Brazos Valley Bases to participate in the Belton 4th of July Parade. And just a few days ago we all gathered at J & J BBQ and Burgers in Cedar Park for our social. It was good getting to see you all out there. The food was good and meeting up with the usual suspects and a few new ones was really great. I believe (hope) we are about done with the heat and looking forward to some cooler temps and am keeping my fingers crossed.

One of the biggest things going on in the Fall is Veterans Day. We have numerous opportunities as a base and individuals to participate in several activities in the area. The biggest activity we have coming up is the Georgetown Field of Honor which we are supporting as a base. It will be a weeklong event in the San Gabriel Park in Georgetown, and I encourage you all to come on out at your convenience to witness the 2000 US Flags, Tunnels 2 Towers display along with many others. There will be various ceremonies and events throughout the week so check it out. Of course, they will have the big Veteran's Day ceremony at 11AM on Veteran's Day including a flyover. On the field of honor there will be 8 flags placed in memory of our CTB members on Eternal Patrol. It is my hope that this is a tradition we continue to follow as long as the Field of Honor exists.

Another opportunity we have is Round Rock is holding their 1st ever Veteran's Day event in Old Settlers Park at Yonder's Pont. It will start out with a ceremony at 11AM also. After a short break for lunch the plan is to have various Veterans orgs and Vendors set up booths for sharing with the public. We will also be conducting colors at the park just like on military bases and then we will be having musical entertainment. Food and Drink will be available. I hope to have a tent set up for our base there with some show and tell items. Maybe we might find a new member. It will also be an opportunity if we have any leftover raffle tickets to sell prior to the drawing the next day. Hopefully they will all be gone by then.

Some of you have been invited to speak or attend various Veterans Day events in the schools in your area. That also is a great opportunity. So, whatever you decide to do please choose to do something in honor of our veterans on Veterans Day. Consider wearing your vest, Submarine Ball Cap and getting out there and showing them who we are too. Oh, almost forgot we have our 1st Kap(ss)4Kid(ss) event coming up Nov 9th in Temple! Shawn has the details.

Currently we are in the middle of our annual fund-raising raffle. This is our annual event where we raise money that allows us to support things like the Filed of Honor and donate to your favorite charities that support veterans and children's causes here locally along with the USSVI Charitable foundation. This year alone we have been able to donate over \$5000 out to various charities. Ticket sales are going a little slow and not many have picked up their share to sell yet. We are only selling 1000 tickets so if 50 of you sold 20 each we would be done. Please ask you friends, acquaintances, family and others if they would like to by a raffle ticket to support veterans. You would be surprised how many people say yes to 1 or usually 3 as we sell them 1/\$10 or 3/\$25. You don't even need to deal with the tickets or cash if you don't want to. Send me their info and we will bill via CC and send them proof (a picture) of their filled-out tickets.

Last thing this month is I just got to see our new challenge coin in real life. Bill has received our 100 coins and we will have them for sale at our next base meeting. Cost is \$10 for base members, and I think \$15 for non-members. They look sharp!

Thanks for everything you all do.

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

Shipmates,

This is an update on the base raffle sales. To date we've sold about 100 tickets which means we have a long way to go in the next 6 weeks to accomplish our goal. We are selling 1000 total tickets this year so we have 900 to go.

Also, we only have 18 members currently selling tickets. Each member should be able to sell 10 - 20 tickets and we need you to step up and help.

For those of you selling raffle tickets, contact me to update sales and collect your money. The rest of you please contact me to get some tickets to sell. I'm available this week but will be out of town 9/25 - 10/2 (during this period please contact Rick with any questions). Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks, Gene, 210-373-3198

From Rick,

I'd also like to add that I have spoken to many who say they won't sell because they think no one will buy them. I disagree, it does not take that much effort and if you share with them what the money goes towards (look at the bottom of the flyer) most will buy 1 or 3. If they say no that's OK too, just ask. Additionally for those of you outside the area we can do this completely via text and email too. Print out a flyer and if you find someone who wants to buy a ticket or more let Gene (or I know their email and phone number and we will get a Credit Card invoice (no fees) sent to them and then fill out their tickets and send them pictures of the stubs showing they have been purchased. You will get credit for the sale so you will be able to win the prize of selling the winning ticket also. Please help us with this. Thanks, Rick

UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS



CENTRAL TEXAS BASE



2022 FUND RAISER RAFFLE



\$2900 IN PRIZES! Gift Certificates

- 1st Place - \$1000 GC
- 2nd Place - \$750 GC
- 3rd Place - \$500 GC
- 4th Place - \$250 GC
- 5th Place - Metal Texas Flag (Apr Value \$400)

Pledge Flag donated by [TestDepthCustoms](#) (on FB or metalarthub.com)

\$10 Per Ticket / 3 for \$25

CONTEST INFORMATION

- Only 1000 Tickets
- Drawing on Nov 12th @ Noon
- Or when all tickets sold
- whatever happens first
- Drawing streamed live on Base FB Page
- You must be 18 years old to purchase a ticket



Your ticket purchase will support our base and the USSVI Charitable Foundation which provides our member's children College Scholarships and helps shipmates in need through the Brotherhood Fund. We also support local non-profits such as VFW Post 8587, R.O.C.K, Folds of Honor, Patriot Guard, WILCO Blue Star Mothers, VET RIDE, Georgetown Field of Honor, Purple Heart Integration Project and many, more.

Blood Drive: Frank Espinosa

22 Oct 2022 from 10:30 to 16:30 at VFW Post 8587. 50 slots are open and we hope to get at least 38 pints. USSVI, American Legion and the VFW are supporting this drive. You can go to <http://weareblood.org> to pre-register and ensure you are able to give.

LEND A HELPING ARM

BLOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22nd

10:30am – 4:30pm

**VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS –
GEORGETOWN**

Blood Drive at the VFW
1000 N. College Street

Scan the code or email Craig at
cwellborn@weareblood.org
Walk-ins Welcome!



Overall Blood Drive Coordinator is
Frank Espinosa, Jr., (512) 639-0451 or
fespinosajr@att.net

EAT A FULL MEAL BEFORE
DONATING AND PLEASE REMEMBER
TO BRING YOUR PHOTO ID.



**DRAWN TOGETHER
SINCE 1951**

BASE CHALLENGE COINS

They're here! Got to see our new Base Challenge Coins in person today and they look sharp! Thanks to Shelly at **(SS) Challenge Coins** for helping us with this project and **H. Bill Scott** for getting this done. Make sure you are at our next meeting Oct 19th to get yours before we run out.



BASE TREASURER'S REPORT

15 September 2022

Financial Report for Period Ending 8/31/2022

Beginning Balance - 8/1/2022	\$28,751.63
RBFCU Checking (General Fund)	\$23,254.83
RBFCU Savings (Memorial Fund)	\$3,828.60
Cash to be deposited	\$00
Un-cleared Checks	-\$1,500.00
Ending Balance - 8/31/2022	\$25,583.43

Submitted: Virgil Claycamp, Treasurer

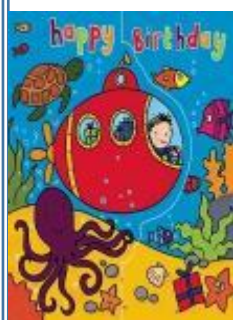
CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MEMBERSHIP

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

Members listed in Central Texas Database	82
Regular Annual Members	23
National Life Members	49
Base Life Members	40
Holland Club Members	41
Associate Members	1
Dual Members	4
Prospective Members:	0
War Veterans	71
Members pending:	0

Submitted: Chuck Malone, Membership

SEPTEMBER 2022



- Bill Bellinghausen - 5th
- Joe Keller - 6th
- Richard Beason - 9th
- Tim Pacl - 11th
- Paul Craven - 12th
- Curt Webber - 14th
- Tom Williams - 17th
- Coy Smith - 21st
- Ed Carr - 24th
- Gene Hall - 26th
- John Koenig - 26th

STOREKEEPER CORNER

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



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.

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.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



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

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

5 – 12 November, 2022, The 6th Annual Field of Honor®, <https://georgetowntxfieldofhonor.org/>, San Gabriel Park in Georgetown, TX.

11 November 2022, Veteran's Day event, Ceremony at 11AM, Old Settlers Park at Yonder's Point, Round Rock, TX.

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

17 December 2022, Base Annual Christmas Social, Details TBD,

18 January 2023, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting. In-person and Zoom.



KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS)



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)



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



An Old Farmer's Prayer

A visiting Priest was attending a men's breakfast in farm country. He asked one of the impressive older farmers to say grace that morning. After all were seated, the older farmer began:

"Lord, I hate buttermilk."

The Priest opened one eye and wondered where this was going.

Then the farmer loudly proclaimed, "Lord, I hate lard."

Now the Priest was really worried .. however without missing a beat, the old farmer prayed on, "And Lord, you know I don't care much for raw white flour."

Just as the Priest was about to stand up and stop everything, the farmer continued:

"But Lord, when you mix 'em all together and bake 'em up, I do love fresh biscuits. So Lord, when things come up we don't like .. when life gets hard .. when we just don't understand what you are sayin' to us, we just need to relax and wait 'til You are done mixin' .. and probably it will be somethin' even better than biscuits. Amen."



God's Horseback Gospel

"Teach me how to live, O Lord. Lead me along the right path, for my enemies are waiting for me. Do not let me fall into their hands...Yet I am confident I will see the Lord's goodness while I am here in the land of the living. Wait patiently for the Lord. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the Lord." (Psalm 27:11-14, NLT) Lord, teach us to wait, in Jesus' name. (Art by Steve Devenyns, used by permission. Thanks, Steve, and God bless you.)

Please check out today's poem, "Wait," and the daily "Pass the Reins" devotional at: <https://www.godshorsebackgospel.com/daily-poem/wait-1>.

Thanks, and God bless your day.



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."



5 Submarine Movies, From Best To Best | by John DeVore | Humungus | Aug, 2022 | Medium

<https://medium.com/humungus/submarine-movies-from-best-to-best-2a9d8c6b254e>

Dive!



5. Ice Station Zebra (1968)

Rock Hudson plays the decent, square-jawed captain of a nuclear sub ferrying a couple of shady spies on a mission to rescue an arctic expedition before the Soviets can get there. The spies are played by a sneeringly good Patrick McGoohan and Ernest Borgnine, whose Russian accent is enthusiastic but inconsistent. Jim Brown also shows up as a no-nonsense Marine. This is a peak Cold War thriller. Hudson is cool, calm, and competent. The submarine is cool, a spaceship of sorts, full of buttons and screens.

The Soviets, when we meet them, are also cool but evil. The submarine sequences are surprisingly well-done — just solid practical effects work. *Ice Station Zebra* is also notable for its complete and total lack of women. It's just dudes in a tube doing dangerous stuff.

4. Crimson Tide (1995)

Director Tony Scott is missed. His best movies are slick, muscular action dramas about men under pressure so it makes sense movie about a nuclear submarine would be one of his best. In *Crimson Tide*, a nail-biting

late Cold War thriller, a decorated naval captain and his charismatic young executive officer come to blows over orders. The stars are a pair of Scott favorites: human steam valve Gene Hackman is the captain willing to start World War III, and Denzel Washington is his second in command, a jaw-clenching do-gooder willing to stage a mutiny. Scott had a knack for finding macho beauty in machines of war, and *Crimson Tide* is a slick advertisement for sealing yourself into a heavily-armed cigar-shaped death trap for Uncle Sam.

3. **Twenty Thousand Leagues Under The Sea (1954)**

I can't imagine a better adaptation of Jules Verne's classic sci-fi novel than this Disney movie starring Kirk Douglas, Peter Lorre, and James Mason as the mysterious Nemo, captain of the famous submarine *Nautilus*. This old-timey action-adventure still looks great, even the climactic kid-friendly battle with a giant squid. *Twenty-Thousand Leagues Under The Sea* is a movie about madness and technology, but it's mainly about a really cool submarine with lots of cool gadgets. Mason is the stand-out in this supervillain story, but dimpled-chinned Douglas holds his own as our hero.

2. **The Abyss (1989)**

This is James Cameron's masterpiece. *The Abyss* is a little bit of *Alien* and *Close Encounters Of Third Kind* set under — way under — the sea. It is a thriller and a romance and a submarine movie. Most of the movie was shot in gigantic silos filled with water. The movie featured cutting-edge CGI effects at the time, but it's the chemistry between leads Ed Harris and Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio as a pair of engineers, and exes, who have to work to discover why a nuclear submarine went down. Michael Biehn is fantastic as a Navy SEAL leading this charge into the deep. There are E.T./mermaids at the bottom of the ocean, but Harris and Mastrantonio give the movie its buoyancy.

1. **'Das Boot' (1981)**

Wolfgang Peterson passed away recently, leaving behind a legacy of smart, over-the-top Hollywood blockbusters for adults who love popcorn, like *Air Force One*, *In The Line Of Fire*, and 2004's sprawling sword-and-sandal saga *Troy* (he was also responsible for the inventive kid's fantasy flick *The Neverending Story*.) But his 1981 German-language submarine movie *Das Boot* made him an international star, and it's the work he'll be remembered for the most. And rightly so. It is arguably, the greatest movie ever made about naval warfare and a World War II classic, a rare one from the point of view of the doomed Nazis. Jürgen Prochnow is the hard-bitten captain, unsure if the sacrifices he and his men are making are worth it. He is a conflicted cog in a war machine run by evil men who will destroy their country. The scenes inside the German U-boats are claustrophobic and electric, and there are times the movie turns into horror. I suppose all war movies are horror, though. Peterson is the rare foreign director to hit it big in Hollywood, and he deserved that success; his big-budget movies are subversive and wild at the same time. But *Das Boot* is special. War is hell, and hell is the cold, black depths of the ocean.

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Best Submarine Movies, From The Hunt for Red October to U-571

<https://collider.com/best-submarine-movies-hunt-for-red-october-u-571/>

From 'The Hunt for Red October' to 'U-571': Best Submarine Movies

By Lloyd Farley, 30 August 2022

These ought to float your boat.

Submarine movies are an interesting genre. Thanks to their location, primarily on the submarine itself, there's already an inherent sense of claustrophobia and tension that is unique to the films. The best use this to their advantage — with [Wolfgang Petersen's *The Boat*](#) as a prime example. In these movies, characters aboard contend not only with the stress of being below the water's surface, but also with a unknown under-sea terrors or enemy warships intent on their submarine's destruction. With apologies to **The Beatles' *Yellow Submarine***, here's the top of the undersea.

The Boat (1981)

The film that launched director Petersen's Hollywood period is a textbook example of the genre. The film follows the crew of a German U-boat, under siege by British destroyers. They are undeniably on edge, a huddled, confined mass dealing with extremities of sheer boredom to terrifying moments of intense fear. It's a gritty, hard-hitting film that accomplishes something rare: empathy for Nazis.

The Hunt for Red October (1990)

If *The Boat* is textbook, then *The Hunt for Red October* is the popular summer read. Easily the most well-known of the genre, *October* is set in 1984, during the Cold War, and the Soviets have developed a new nuclear submarine, Red October, with an advanced propulsion system that runs silent. Unfortunately, Captain Marko Ramius (**Sir Sean Connery**) has gone rogue, taking the sub towards America. The U.S. believes that Ramius' intent is to attack. The Russians are sending out naval and air forces to stop it before it gets to America. Only Jack Ryan (**Alec Baldwin**) has a different read on the situation: he believes Ramius intends to defect. The film is tense and gripping, and the final battle with another Soviet vessel is amazing.

U-571 (2000)

After intercepting a distress call, a U.S. Navy submarine is sent to capture German U-boat U-571 and steal the Enigma machine coding device aboard. The America crew boards the U-boat and assumes command after overwhelming the Germans. Lieutenant Andrew Tyler (**Matthew McConaughey**) route the sub towards Cornwall, but encounter German and American (unaware Americans have taken control) forces intent on bringing it down. The rather average film ended up stirring controversy upon release, with British Prime Minister Tony Blair condemning the film in Parliament for Americanizing a key moment in British war history.

K-19: The Widowmaker (2002)

Based on a true event, *K-19: The Widowmaker* sees Russia launch the K-19, the USSR's first nuclear ballistic submarine, in 1961. During this maiden voyage, the nuclear reactor aboard malfunctions and begins to leak, endangering the lives of Captain Alexei Vostrikov (**Harrison Ford**), commander Mikhail Polenin (**Liam Neeson**) and the crew. Adding to the danger is the very real threat that another Chernobyl-like event could spark World War III. Director **Kathryn Bigelow** uses the elements of confinement and countdown masterfully, and similar to *The Boat* before it, *K-19* pulls off empathy for a group of Russians.

Run Silent, Run Deep (1958)

Commander P.J. Richardson (**Clark Gable**) is given a new submarine command, the USS Nerka, a year after his previous command was sunk by the Japanese destroyer Akikaze in the Bungo Straits. Richardson flagrantly disobeys direct orders when he assumes control, taking the vessel to the Bungo Straits to exact revenge upon the Akikaze. The crew is outraged at the violation, but must defend themselves when the Nerka is attacked. The attack leaves three crew members killed, and Richardson incapacitated. Lieutenant Commander Jim Bledsoe (**Burt Lancaster**) takes over, and must decide to return home or finish the job Richardson began. A great film that, again, uses the claustrophobic element of the genre to full effect, along with some excellent action scenes.

Torpedo Run (1958)

Barney Doyle (**Glenn Ford**), the commander of a World War II submarine, is ordered to take the USS Grayfish and destroy the Japanese aircraft carrier Shinaru, the ship that led the Pearl Harbor attack. The mission is personal for Doyle, angered that the Japanese took his wife and baby daughter prisoner 10 months ago. Good news: both wife and daughter are alive. Bad news: they are in a transport carrying American POW's, the transport that happens to be screening the Shinaru. Now, Doyle has an impossible decision to make, and the film uses the eventual decision and its fallout from it skillfully.

Crimson Tide (1995)

A better than average action thriller buoyed by its two leads, **Denzel Washington** and **Gene Hackman**. Russian rebels have captured some nuclear missiles, prompting the Americans to send out vessels to take action if needed, including the USS Alabama. Commander Hunter (Washington) is paired with Captain Ramsey (Hackman) on the boat. The two are radically different, and butt heads on how an incident aboard the sub is handled. Then they get orders to attack, but while preparing, a second order is only partially received due to damage with their communications. Now they are at a crossroads: Hunter's desire to reestablish contact and confirm the order to attack before taking action, versus Ramsey's call to proceed as ordered initially.

72 Meters (2004)

A Russian sub inadvertently makes contact with a World War II naval mine during practice maneuvers, and the ensuing explosion sinks the vessel. Many crew members are killed by the explosion, and the compromised vessel is taking in water, leaving only one compartment unflooded. The survivors huddle in the compartment and devise a plan to escape through the torpedo tube. Only one problem: they're 72 meters below the surface and only one breathing apparatus is charged and usable. It's not a great film, with subplots (no pun intended) that add nothing and plot devices that stretch believability, but interesting.

Ice Station Zebra (1968)

Espionage goes underwater when the crew of the USS Tigerfish are sent to investigate a distress call from Ice Station Zebra, a British scientific weather station in the Arctic. Things get problematic when it's discovered there is a saboteur aboard, intent on halting the rescue mission. Why, you may ask? The Soviets have stolen technology from the British and the Americans and produced a camera sent into orbit to photograph American missile silos, but it has taken pictures of Soviet missile silos as well. It just so happens that the film was ejected and landed nearby the station, so both the British and the Soviets have sent agents to try and get it first.

The Command (2018)

A dramatization of the 2000 K-141 Kursk submarine disaster. During a naval exercise, the Russian submarine K-141 Kursk sinks with 118 crew on board following an accident. Most of the crew, save 23, die, leaving the survivors with little time or space to survive. In the meanwhile, the families of the survivors battle waves of red tape, trying to get information on their loved ones. Also caught up in the bureaucracy is British officer Commodore David Russell (**Colin Firth**), desperately pushing for a Russian permit that would allow for an attempted rescue. **The Command** is a perfect example of another trope in the genre, the sailors who are failed by their superiors.

Black Sea (2014)

One of the few films in the genre that doesn't have military aboard the submarine, **Black Sea** features **Jude Law** as Robinson, a recently fired submarine captain for a marine salvage company. Risking everything, he pulls together a crew in search of a fabled sunken Nazi U-boat filled with gold ingots. The problem is, the area where the U-boat is purported to be lies in the Black Sea, which hosts a hostile Russian naval fleet. Worth watching for its unique premise in the submarine movie game.

Hunter Killer (2018)

American submarine USS Tampa Bay disappears in the Arctic while tailing a Russian submarine. The USS Arkansas and its newly-promoted commander Joe Glass (**Gerard Butler**) are dispatched to investigate. While the Arkansas makes its way north, a Navy SEAL team led by Lieutenant Bill Beaman (**Toby Stephens**) is sent to observe an Arctic Russian naval base. What they find is jarring: Russian defense minister Dmitri Durov (**Mikhail Gorevoy**) has taken Russian President Zakarin (**Alexander Dyachenko**) prisoner, and intends to trigger war. It's a fun film, especially if one is a fan of Butler's **Has Fallen** franchise.

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The Great Britain received the fifth nuclear submarine of the Astute type with Spearfish torpedoes, Tomahawk and Harpoon missiles valued £1.3 billion

By: [Maksim Panasovsky](#) | 03.09.2022, 21:30

<https://gagadget.com/en/163177-britain-received-the-fifth-nuclear-submarine-of-the-astute-type-with-spearfish-torpedoes-tomahawk-and-harpoon-missiles-at/>

The Royal Navy has added a fifth nuclear-powered Astute-class submarine to its fleet. It is named HMS Anson.



Here's What We Know

The ceremony, which was dedicated to the new nuclear submarine, was held in the port of Barrow-in-Furness, England. The event was attended by Boris Johnson, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

The manufacturer of HMS Anson is BAE Systems. The Swedish-British company has produced four other Astute-type submarines. The first submarine is called HMS Astute. It appeared in 2010. After that, HMS Ambush, Artful and Audacious were introduced in 2013, 2016 and 2020, respectively.

HMS Anson can reach speeds of up to 29 knots (53.7 km/h).

The working diving depth is 300 m. The submarine's arsenal includes six 533mm Spearfish torpedo launchers, Tomahawk cruise missiles and Harpoon anti-ship missiles.

The cost of HMS Anson cost £1.3 billion. In total the Royal Navy of Great Britain wants to get seven submarines of Astute type. They will replace Trafalgar class submarines which appeared 40 years ago.

Source: [Royal Navy](#)

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The Story of the Soviet Submarine Officer Who Saved the World Is Now an Opera

In 1962, Vasily Arkhipov made a fateful decision that averted a nuclear war. Now his story will be sung.

By [Matthew Gault](#), September 23, 2022, 8:00am

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/bvmdqa/the-story-of-the-soviet-submarine-officer-who-saved-the-world-is-now-an-opera>

For a moment on October 27, 1962 the world came close to nuclear annihilation. It was the middle of the Cuban Missile Crisis and the world stood at the precipice of disaster. The Soviet submarine *B-59* in the depths of the Atlantic Ocean was cut off from Moscow and its commander wanted to launch a nuclear torpedo at nearby American ships. Another officer on the sub, Vasily Arkhipov, stopped him. He's a hero who narrowly avoided nuclear war. Now his time on the submarine and that fateful decision has been commemorated as an opera.

Set to run October 21 and 22 at the Kirk Douglas Theater in Los Angeles, *Arkhipov* is a small-scale opera performed by 10 singers and 18 instruments. It's two acts long and will run approximately two hours, according to a [description](#) on its website.

Arkhipov is, appropriately, the show's hero. An interrogation of his wife 40 years after the event serves as the framing device but the bulk of the action will take place in the submarine itself. "Via arias that plumb the sailors' interior lives, the opera investigates the physical and psychic claustrophobia of the underwater vessel and the ways its crew escapes the purgatory of the failing submarine—their belongings, their dreams and desires," the description explained.

Nuclear war and opera is a surreal mix. "What happens if we find ourselves caught in the crosshairs of calamity," Ed Parks, playing Arkhipov, sings a resonant baritone in a [trailer](#) for the show. "Chaos catapulting us from one moment to the next."

"My torpedo tipped with 10 kilotons of nuclear warheads," vibrates countertenor Daniel Moody. It's eerie and a little silly. A slightly ridiculous medium to talk about something so terrifying. It's a juxtaposition often found in art about nuclear war.

Arkhipov was already a Soviet hero before he set foot on *B-59*. In 1961, he was assigned to *K-19*, one of Russia's first nuclear powered submarines. While conducting exercises near Greenland, one of the subs reactor coolant systems began to leak. To avoid a nuclear meltdown, engineers crawled into the reactor and conducted makeshift repairs. Everyone on board the sub was irradiated but the crew avoided a meltdown and brought the sub home. Many would die from radiation poisoning in the weeks and months to come.

Arkhipov survived and was assigned to *B-59*. It was 1962 and the Soviets were deploying nuclear missiles to Cuba. It was a move that put the United States into a panic. The nukes would be well within reach of the U.S. The announcement came after the Bay of Pigs Invasion and was meant to deter further provocation from America. Kennedy called for a "quarantine" of the island and negotiations began. For 13 days that October, it looked like a nuclear war might begin at any moment.

B-59 and Arkhipov silently cruised into the waters around Cuba amid the tension. The diesel powered sub was there to provide support and, if needed, to launch an attack. But the *B-59* was not exactly silent and the American ships nearby noticed it and began to drop "practice" depth charges to signal the submarine to surface.

Aboard a sub, it's hard to tell the difference between a depth charge that's meant to kill and one that's meant to intimidate. Sub captain Vitali Savitsky was convinced World War III had begun and that the Americans were trying to destroy *B-59*. He wanted to launch a nuclear torpedo to wipe out the aggressors. Thankfully, a nuclear launch required the authorization of three officers. Another agreed with Savitsky, but Arkhipov refused to co-sign the launch. He talked the other two down, convinced them the depth charges were meant as a warning and not an attack, and narrowly avoided the first use of a nuclear weapon since World War II.

Arkhipov the opera seeks to tell that story by "creating an opera that renders this narrowly avoided slow-motion train wreck via an arc of relentlessly mounting tension—from the initial excitement and camaraderie of the submariners through their increasing deprivation, to a tortured state in which a decision to destroy the world seems almost logical."

Musicals and operas are a bizarre genre. There are some emotions and moments so big, so grand, and so horrific that conveying them through song lends them a gravitas that's hard to convey in a typical stage play or film. The story of Arkhipov, a man who helped the world turn away from nuclear destruction is perhaps one of those stories.

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In one year stationed at sub base, sailor jumps into community — and a difficult new role

<https://www.theday.com/local-news/20220925/in-one-year-stationed-at-submarine-base-sailor-jumps-right-into-community-%E2%80%95-and-a-difficult-new-rol/>

By Erica Moser, September 25, 2022 4:34 pm, e.moser@theday.com



Groton — Since reporting to the Naval Submarine Base in Groton a year ago, Fire Control Technician 1st Class Jessica Staley has become quartermaster at a local VFW post, joined the Ledyard Cemetery Commission, become involved with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Groton, and worked on her master of business administration degree.

That's in addition to her main job: teaching sailors at the Naval Submarine School how to track enemy targets and about the weapons they could be using, before they go to sea.

But over the summer, she started a collateral duty — a role on the side to help out the command — and was almost immediately thrown into a difficult situation, one that pulled her from the class she was in the middle of teaching.

Staley, 39, is the newest casualty assistance calls officer, or CACO, the person who is called when a service member dies or is seriously injured. She finished her classes in July and was assigned as the primary CACO in August, out of a rotation of six people.

A few days into August, she said, a submarine school student got into a motorcycle accident and ended up in a coma.

Staley drove to Hartford Hospital multiple days a week for four weeks. She helped family members with travel paperwork so they could be by his side, and helped them find a place to stay close to the hospital. She explained military benefits to them, and worked with the American Red Cross, Semper Fi Fund, VFW posts and church organizations.

Staley said she helped facilitate the transfer to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, and that the man has woken up from the coma. When August ended, another person became the primary CACO, though Staley noted she would have stayed on if the man wasn't transferred.

Her own experience drove her interest in becoming a CACO.

"I've had friends that were military die, and I've had family myself die, so being notified by somebody who understands is important," said Staley, who has lost a mother, brother and both maternal grandparents. She knows the value of "having somebody take care of the minutiae" so family members can focus on their loved ones.

As the medical department chief for Submarine Readiness Squadron 32 at the Naval Submarine Base, Senior Chief Petty Officer Simon Makuchowski helps coordinate CACO responses.

"Within a couple of days of her being assigned a CACO, she had already established herself as a person to call with a wealth of knowledge and willingness to assist," Makuchowski said. He said with a complex case that came up a couple of weeks ago, he reached out to people with a question, and "every single person was like, 'Talk to Jessi Staley,' 'talk to Jessi,' 'talk to Petty Officer Staley.'"

He said Staley is empathetic and intelligent but good at knowing what she doesn't know, with a willingness "to find the answers and build the networks to maintain that knowledge."

Makuchowski is also the post commander of VFW Post 4608 in Ledyard, where Staley has become quartermaster, a role that involves handling finances. Makuchowski said she modernized the organization from the "kind of records-keeping like you would've seen in the 1950s," and that she also spreads awareness of the VFW at events like parades or the Ledyard Farmers Market.

David Nelson, a Gales Ferry resident and Fourth District Commander for the VFW in Connecticut, said Staley is the person who plays devil's advocate at meetings and makes sure others think outside the box.

"She always provides the thought process that we overlook," he said, adding, "She seems kind of soft-spoken, but when she says things, you step back and think about it."

Being in a strong military family, Staley said she got involved with the VFW because she wanted to make sure veterans are taken care of.

Jumping at a new opportunity

Staley grew up in Montana and said she always wanted to be in the military and follow in her family's footsteps: Her grandfather served in the Army in World War II and her father was a Marine. She got married in 2006 and her husband was serving in the Army at the time.

Staley lost 175 pounds so she could join the Navy.

When she joined in 2010, she wanted to serve on a submarine, interested in being part of a smaller community. But women weren't allowed at the time, and even after the first female officer qualified in submarines in 2012, it would be a few more years until that extended to enlisted sailors.

Staley became an Aegis Computer Network Technician and was assigned to the guided missile destroyer USS Nitze when the Navy announced in January 2015 that enlisted women would be eligible to serve on submarines.

"Yes, this is my chance," she recalled thinking, and let the lead petty officer and chief know she wanted to apply. Staley went to submarine school in 2016 and said she then became one of the first 100 women to serve on a submarine.

She served on the USS Michigan from 2017 to 2020 and then was stationed at Submarine Group 9 in Washington State before reporting to the Naval Submarine Base in Groton last September. Staley was pregnant with her 1-year-old while in Washington, and she also has a 9-year-old.

"I'm all about family," Staley said. The "strong family aspect" is what drew her to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and at her church, she provides mentorship to teenage girls.

Staley is also working on getting her MBA, with an emphasis in government and project management. She can retire in seven and a half years, and her goal is to then work at Electric Boat or somewhere like EB.



New US nuclear sub made for China, Russia war

SSN(X) design aims to fix flaws in Virginia class predecessor and marks a return to Cold War operational doctrine

BY GABRIEL HONRADA, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

<https://asiatimes.com/2022/09/new-us-nuclear-sub-made-for-china-russia-war/>



America's new nuclear attack nuclear submarine the SSN(X), is still being designed. Image: Facebook

The US is designing its SSN(X) next-generation nuclear attack submarine in a significant shift from procuring Virginia class SSNs to a new class by the 2030s. The program addresses maintenance woes in its current nuclear attack submarine fleet and reorients US undersea warfare capabilities to great power competition from China and Russia.

The designation “SSN(X)” means that the exact design of the nuclear attack submarine class has not yet been determined, according to [an August 2022 US Congressional Research Service \(CRS\) report](#).

Although the Virginia class is built with incremental improvements called “blocks,” a new design that solves maintenance problems and includes game-changing technologies may represent the development of a new class altogether.

The CRS report states that the US Navy estimates the SSN(X)’s price tag at US\$5.8 billion per boat, significantly higher than the \$3.6 billion for a VPM-equipped Virginia class boat.

At the Society of Naval Engineers’ annual Fleet Maintenance and Modernization Symposium held this month, Rear Admiral Jonathan Rucker stated that the US currently has 50 SSNs, but 18 are under maintenance and unavailable to operational commanders, as [reported in Defense News](#).

Rucker said that the current number of SSNs in maintenance is too high and that sub maintenance is facing challenges in planning availabilities, work execution and keeping enough spares and materials for repairs on hand.

At the same conference, Rear Admiral Scott Brown said that the US Navy did not make sufficient investments in repair and maintenance capabilities when designing and acquiring the Virginia class SSN, resulting in the cannibalization of other boats to maintain operational numbers and delays waiting for parts and components that are often unavailable.

Rucker emphasized that such shortfalls should not happen with the SSN(X). He stated that from over a million parts in the Virginia SSN, only 0.1%, or 32 parts, were found not to perform as intended from a life expectancy perspective. He also mentioned that those 32 parts were redesigned, or had their maintenance cycle changed, insinuating those improved parts could possibly be used in the SSN(X).

He stated that the SSN(X) design emphasizes four top requirements: speed, stealth, payloads and operational availability. Rucker and Brown’s statements echo the [August 2022 CRS report](#) highlighting the industrial base and maintenance woes plaguing the US Virginia class SSN fleet.



America’s shipyards are being asked to produce more Virginia-class submarines per year.
Credit: US Navy photo.

The report notes concern about the US’ limited industrial base to construct two Virginia class SSNs with the multi-mission Virginia Payload Module (VPM) and one Columbia class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) annually from the mid-2020s to mid-2030s.

Despite those limitations, there may be plans to increase US submarine production to three Virginia class boats and one Columbia class boat per year, which has been dubbed the “3+1 program.”

In December 2021, US President Joe Biden signed three determinations of the Defense Production Act

(DPA) to strengthen the US submarine industrial base to increase the production of Virginia class subs.

However, the CRS report asks several difficult questions – most without answers – about the US' submarine construction industrial base. First, it asks whether the US Navy, submarine shipyards and submarine supplier firms have agreed on the US industrial base capacity to handle building the Virginia and Columbia class subs.

Second, it asks whether those organizations have taken steps to increase the industrial base capacity to match desired submarine procurement rates. Third, the report asks about the specific effects of the three presidential DPA determinations on US submarine-building capacity.

The CRS report also points to other issues within the Virginia class fleet such as cannibalization between boats, noting that some components have worn out earlier than their 33-year designed lifespan, with flaws in contractor quality and out-of-spec parts contributing to accelerated wear.

The report notes that most cannibalized parts were electrical components, among other classified parts. It also says that cannibalization brings a slew of disadvantages, such as increased workload and risks of parts being damaged during the process.

Other issues raised in the CRS report included substandard steel, problems with hull coating and defective parts.

With all these problems, US Navy SSNs have had delayed deployments due to capacity-related backlogs at US Naval shipyards, [notes a separate July 22 CRS report](#). That report asks critical questions about the US Navy's required number of SSNs given its 355-ship goal in 2016 while pointing to the operational implications of the US' shrinking SSN fleet, which is projected to decline to 46 boats by 2028 and stay below 60 until 2045.

The US built the Virginia class SSN in the 2000s as a less-expensive alternative to the Seawolf class, which was built between 1989 and 2005, with the latter class being the most expensive US attack sub ever built at \$5 billion per boat in 2018 dollar values.

The Seawolf class was designed as the successor to the 1970s Los Angeles class, which is currently still in service. The US built the subs to operate in deep-water environments to hunt then-Soviet nuclear-powered subs such as the Typhoon-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile subs (SSBN) and Akula-class SSNs.

However, the US built only three out of 29 planned boats due to the end of the Cold War.



A Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine moors to the pier at Naval Base Guam. Photo: U.S. Navy / Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Kelsey J. Hockenberger

In contrast, the VPM-equipped Virginia class costs \$3.6 billion per boat while featuring technologies found in the Seawolf class.

While the Virginia class can perform the same missions as the Seawolf class, it is optimized for a post-Cold War threat environment characterized by covert insertion and delivery of special operations forces (SOF), covert cruise missile strikes on land targets and covert offensive and defensive mine warfare.

However, renewed great power competition between the US, China and Russia may have prompted a shift in US submarine design philosophy, with a new emphasis on anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare.

Notably, China's rapidly advancing anti-access/area-denial (A2/AD) capabilities and improving [nuclear](#) and [conventional subs](#) pose a significant challenge to US undersea dominance in the Pacific. Russia's nuclear subs are also a serious challenge to US dominance in the Pacific and Arctic. When operating close to US shores, Chinese and Russian subs pose a significant threat to the US homeland.

Apart from simplifying logistics and maintaining fleet numbers as a rationale for the SSN(X), the US Navy may have reached its stealth capability limit with a purely mechanical system, a limitation that may be driving the SSN(X)'s development.

[In a 2016 article for The National Interest](#), Dave Majumdar notes that a next-generation sub would have to dispense with moving parts to improve stealth drastically, as rotating machinery and propulsors moving through water excite the stern and other parts, generating noise.

In addition, Majumdar notes that a permanent magnet motor for the upcoming Columbia class may also be installed in the SSN(X), presenting a big technological leap from the Virginia class.

Critically, the increasing stealth of Chinese and Russian subs may be the driving factor to improve the stealth of the Virginia class. However, current mechanical propulsion technologies may already have reached their limit.

[In a September 2020 article for The National Interest](#), Caleb Larson mentions that China's Shang class SSNs may already be as quiet as their US counterparts. He notes improvements in reactor design and anti-echoic tiles may have reduced the Shang class's noise level to that of upgraded Los Angeles SSNs.

Similarly, Russia has been steadily improving the capability of its subs, despite the relative deterioration of its military in other areas. In technology terms, the Yasen SSGNs represent a significant development in acoustic signature reduction and weapons integration, which are on par with some Western counterparts, [notes Arnaud Sobrero in a February 2021 article for The Diplomat](#).

Sobrero also mentions that Russia's Borei SSBNs are more modern than the aging US Ohio class SSBNs. Russia commissioned its Belgorod special mission submarine this July.

[Asia Times has reported on this development](#), noting that the Belgorod is the designated carrier of the Poseidon nuclear-armed underwater drone and the highly-classified Losharik saboteur sub.



Russia's Belgorod submarine is designed to fight in a nuclear conflict. Image: Creative Commons

[Asia Times has also reported](#) on Russia's planned successor to the Borei class, the Arcturus, which is optimized for Arctic operations and features stealth improvements such as a shaftless power plant and pump jet

propulsion.

Given these threats, the US Navy envisions the SSN(X) will be an “apex predator” combining the high speed and payload of the Seawolf class, stealth and sensors of the Virginia class and availability and service life of the Columbia class.

The CRS report says the SSN(X) will be designed to counter the growing threat posed by near-peer adversary competition for undersea supremacy, noting it aims to outclass competitors in terms of speed, payload, stealth and operational availability.

The SSN(X) will also be capable of full-spectrum undersea warfare and coordinate with a larger contingent of off-hull vehicles, sensors and friendly forces while improving multi-mission capability and sustained combat presence in denied waters.

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Nearly 14,000 community pharmacies leaving Tricare network next month

By Karen Ruedisueli, Military Officers Association of America

22 September 2022

<https://www.militarytimes.com/pay-benefits/2022/09/22/nearly-14000-community-pharmacies-leaving-tricare-network-next-month/>

Editor's note: This [article](#) was originally published on the Military Officers Association of America [website](#). MOAA is the nation's largest association of military officers.

Many military families who use independent or community pharmacies soon will have to find an alternative source for their [prescription medication needs](#).

Approximately 15,000 community pharmacies will leave the Tricare retail pharmacy network on Oct. 24. Nearly 400,000 beneficiaries, or roughly 4% of the Tricare-eligible population, will be affected by the change.

In 2021, there were more than 56,000 pharmacy locations in the TRICARE retail pharmacy network, including national chains, grocery chains and independent pharmacies.

Impacted beneficiaries will receive a letter from Express Scripts with a list of alternative in-network pharmacies. Walgreens and [CVS remain in-network](#), as do many grocery store pharmacies and smaller chains. Network pharmacies also can be found using this [online search tool](#).

After Oct. 24, beneficiaries who continue to fill prescriptions at departing community pharmacies will pay the full retail price for the medication.

To transfer a prescription, beneficiaries can:

- Take their prescription bottles to another participating pharmacy in the network. The pharmacist there will contact the previous pharmacy and transfer the prescription.
- Call the new pharmacy and ask the pharmacist to obtain the prescription information from the old pharmacy.
- Ask their doctor to send the prescription information to the new pharmacy.
- Visit the [Express Scripts website](#) to switch eligible medications to home delivery.

Even with the departure of community pharmacies, Express Scripts reports the Tricare retail network will continue to meet or exceed Tricare's pharmacy access standard of at least one pharmacy within a 15-minute drive of 90% of beneficiaries.



Commander, Submarine Forces

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

[Commander, Submarine Forces | Facebook](#)



9/26, in 2017, the Navy awards a \$5.1 billion contract to General Dynamics Electric Boat for Integrated Product and Process Development (IPPD) of the Columbia-class fleet ballistic-missile submarine (SSBN). The IPPD contract award includes design, completion, component and technology development and prototyping work.

In the picture, the keel is laid for the first Columbia-class submarine, USS District of Columbia, June 4, 2022.

After 18 years, popular World War II fleet submarine back in drydock for maintenance

<https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2022/09/21/after-18-years-popular-world-war-ii-fleet-submarine-back-drydock-maintenance/>

By HNN Staff



Towing of 80-year-old World War II fleet submarine USS Bowfin from Pearl Harbor for dry dock maintenance (Courtesy: Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum)

Published: Sep. 21, 2022 at 1:05 AM CDT|Updated: Sep. 21, 2022 at 1:08 AM CDT

HONOLULU (HawaiiNewsNow) - A popular tourist attraction at Pearl Harbor is closed for the next several weeks.

The 80-year-old World War II USS Bowfin is back in drydock Tuesday night at the Pacific Shipyards International at Honolulu Harbor.

Nearly 18 years have passed since the vessel got hauled out for a closer look — last time was in 2004.

“The scheduled dry dock maintenance period will ensure the submarine remains safe and suitable for public display and allow the Bowfin to tell her story far into the future,” said Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum executive director Chuck Merkel.

The USS Bowfin earned the nickname the “Pearl Harbor Avenger” following the attack on America in 1941. Merkel told HNN that the vessel is one of only about 15 fleet submarines from World War II left.

“She stands as a memorial to the Submarine Force... and she’s the centerpiece of the Pacific Fleet submarine museum,” added Merkel.

Although tours are suspended, the rest of the museum and campus will remain open to the public from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily throughout the dry-dock period.

The bowfin is expected to be reopened sometime around Nov. 1.

For updates on the status of the USS Bowfin’s drydock maintenance, click [here](#).

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Man and the FBM

[HTTPS://VIDEO.SEARCH.YAHOO.COM/SEARCH/VIDEO?FR=MCAFEE&EI=UTF-8&P=MAN+AND+THE+FBM&TYPE=E210US105G0#ID=1&VID=2360C5B23C198167D11CC9EFB889FBB6&ACTION=CLICK](https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=mcafee&ei=utf-8&p=man+and+the+fbm&type=e210us105g0#id=1&vid=2360c5b23c198167d11cc9efb889fbb6&action=click)



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2022-040

NEWS-01: USSVI VSO NEWS FOR September 2022

Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO on 8/31/2022

Shipmates,

Navy Will Offer Chiefs Promotions to Go to Sea or the George Washington -- in New Program

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/08/09/navy-will-offer-chiefs-promotions-go-sea-or-george-washington-new-program.html?ESRC=navy-a_220810.nl

Veterans Can Start Filing New Claims Now for 23 Illnesses Covered Under New Law

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/08/03/veterans-can-start-filing-new-claims-now-23-illnesses-covered-under-new-law.html?ESRC=navy-a_220810.nl

Air Force Allows Facebook Comments Criticizing the Service Online After Veteran's Lawsuit

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/08/09/air-force-allows-facebook-comments-criticizing-service-online-after-veterans-lawsuit.html?ESRC=navy-a_220810.nl

The VA PACT Act, (everything you need to know right from the VA)

https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/?utm_source=Feature&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=VetResources&utm_id=10AUG2022

President Signs Historic Toxic Exposure Bill Extending Benefits to Millions of Veterans

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/08/10/president-signs-historic-toxic-exposure-bill-extending-benefits-millions-of-veterans.html?ESRC=mr_220815.nl

The Navy's Offering Up to \$115,000 to Join or Come Back

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/08/12/navys-offering-115000-join-or-come-back.html?ESRC=mr_220815.nl

What Happens When a Military Member Hits a Jackpot?

https://www.military.com/military-life/what-happens-when-military-member-hits-jackpot.html?ESRC=mr_220815.nl

Air Force Allows Facebook Comments Criticizing the Service Online After Veteran's Lawsuit

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/08/09/air-force-allows-facebook-comments-criticizing-service-online-after-veterans-lawsuit.html?ESRC=mr_220815.nl

Tricare to Start Charging for Telehealth Appointments But Makes Phone Visits Permanent

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/08/02/tricare-start-charging-telehealth-appointments-makes-phone-visits-permanent.html?ESRC=mr_220808.nl

Record Pay Increase Likely Coming for Disabled Veterans and Military Retirees in 2023

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/08/17/record-va-disability-pay-raise-military-retiree-pay-raise-2023.html?ESRC=navy-a_220824.nl

First Woman to Serve As 'Chief of the Boat' on A Submarine Reports for Duty

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/08/31/first-woman-serve-chief-of-boat-submarine-reports-duty.html>

The Cost of Tricare Is Going up in 2023 for Guard and Reserve Members, Transitioning Troops and Young Adults

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/08/30/cost-of-tricare-going-2023-guard-and-reserve-members-transitioning-troops-and-young-adults.html?ESRC=navy-a_220831.nl

Veterans Can Get More Time to Pay Back Debts to VA Under Extended Program

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/08/30/veterans-can-get-more-time-pay-back-debts-va-under-extended-program.html?ESRC=navy-a_220831.nl



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2022-041

NEWS-01: Charitable Foundation open position

Submitted by: Ken Earls, President, CF on 9/1/2022

Shipmates,

You have the opportunity to join a dedicated, talented team that strives to fulfill the dictates of the USSVI's charitable foundation's responsibilities.

We have an immediate opening for the Treasurer position for the United States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation.

In the past 22 years, this position has been filled by only 3 individuals. You can become one of a very small group.

This position requires a basic knowledge or understanding of Accounting and/or Bookkeeping. It does require being comfortable using Microsoft's Excel. Previous exposure to Quickbooks would be helpful. The position typically consumes 4 to 8 hours per month, except in July when Scholarship checks are prepared. That adds another 4 - 6 hours for that month.

Any USSVI Member or Associate Member may apply. The position requirements are spelled out in more detail in the Charitable Foundation's Policy & Procedures Manual, which is available on our website:

www.ussvcf.org

Please feel free to contact me by email if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Ken Earls, President
Charitable Foundation
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.
kenearlss@gmail.com
www.ussvcf.org
928-308-4488 - Mobile



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2022-042

NEWS-01: 2023 National Convention Facebook page now online
Submitted by: Dennis Ottley, Convention Chair, 9/28/2022

Shipmates,

The 2023 USSVI National Convention Facebook page is now online and will be a source of information on plans and events that will be of interest to all members of USSVI as we publish frequently.

The new convention website is currently being developed as a part of the new ussvi.org website and when launched members will be able to register for the convention and hotel plus inks will be established for convention magazine ads, vendors, and local information of interest much like the old convention site from prior years. We hope to bring it online in the 4th quarter when Tim Carlisle's team finishes up creating the website.

Please follow and like the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/tucsonbaseussvi>.

Google 2023 USSVI National Convention for the link or search Facebook when on the site.

V/r

Dennis Ottley
USSVI Western District-1 Commander
USSVI 2023 National Convention Chair



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2022-043

NEWS-01: 2022 USSVI Awards Recipients
Submitted by: Bill Scott, Awards Chairman on 9/10/2022

Shipmates,

I had the privilege of serving as Chairman of the USSVI National Awards Committee again for this year. Below please find a tabulation of all the award winners for 2022.

2022 USSVI National Awards and Recognition Program

JOE NEGRI AWARD United States Submarine Veteran of the Year

Paul Hiser - Tarheel Base

District Commander of the Year for 2022-2023

Jay Mack - District Commander Southeast District Four - Central Florida Base

Robert Link National Commander's Award

Tim Carlisle - Mare Island Base
John Connon - Chicago Base
Ilene G Davis - Bremerton Base
James Garvey - Dolphin Base
Charles Hladik - Oklahoma City Base
Jay D Mack - Central Florida Base
John V McCrum - Volunteer Base
Gerald W Smith - Wyoming Base

Alan Cole - Mare Island Base
Bret S Cortright - Sculpin Base
Frank C Ely - Corvina Base
Carl Donald Hirschenhofer - Cowtown Base
Janet Irwin - Albany-Saratoga Base
Alonso (Jack) McAllister - Sailfish Base
Fran Rairdan - Yakima Base
Donald Smith - Buffalo Base

William S Stuple - Volunteer Base
Michael Zemser - Long Island Base

Vic Vanhorn - Perch Base

Meritorious Award – Individual

Class I - Tim Carlisle - Mare Island Base
Class II - Gene Keller - Rocky Mountain Base
Class II - James Donahue - Egg Harbor Base - Posthumously
Class III - Jim Gibson - Cuttlefish Base
Class IV - Paul Curtis - South Lake Florida

Meritorious Award – Base

CLASS II - Corvina Base
CLASS III - Yakima Base
CLASS IV - South Lake Florida Base

Golden Anchor Award

Class I - Albany-Saratoga Base
Class II - Corvina Base
Class III - Bonefish Base
Class IV - South Lake Florida Base

Silver Anchor Award

Tim Gregory - Buffalo Base
Donald Unser - Perch Base
Julie Kocis - Tucson Base
Jerry Padtra - Treasure Coast Base - Posthumously
Rollin Patrick - South Lake Base
Joe Mathis - Razorback Base
James P Ransom III - First Coast Base

Charles Murray - Groton Base
Dennis Olsen - Tucson Base
Amos Goldsberry - Cuttlefish Base
Paul Hoitt - Treasure Coast Base
Ben Bastura Historical Achievement Award
Rickart A Connole - Tang Base

The Newsletter of the Year Award

CLASS I - Bremerton Base - Puget Soundings - Editor - David Pittman
CLASS II - Central Texas Base - The Deck Log - Editor - Bill Scott
CLASS III - SLO Subvets Base - SLO Subvets Scuttlebutt - Editor - Cathy Wathen
CLASS IV - Sculpin Base - Sculpin Base POD - Editor - E.D. "Moe" Moses
OVERALL WINNER - Gold Country Base - Clear The Baffles - Editor - Barry Wyatt

Honored to Serve,
Harold W (Bill) Scott II, STSCS(SS), USN Ret.
2022 USSVI National Awards and Recognition Program Chair



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News

NEWS-01: Important Website Update

Submitted by: Bill Andrea, National Commander, Sep 9, 2022, 2:25 PM

Shipmates,

Shipmates, this is not a specific National Bulletin, but a direct posting to all USSVI Members with a valid email address from the National Commander regarding the process for signing in to the new website. Paragraph # 1 will have your personal user name and email address. Paragraph #2 has specific instructions for logging in as a member. When National Bulletins begin being sent to everyone directly, I will no longer publish them in "The Deck Log."

Your Newsletter Editor.



From the Desk of National Commander Bill Andrea

Changes are highlighted in red.

Shipmate,

This is a critical email regarding the new website. Please read all the way to the bottom of the email.

As most all of you know, we have launched our new USSVI Website, which is utilizing a software package (Blackbaud) that allows some customization, but with limitations. As expected with any new website endeavor, little unexpected gremlins will jump out of the woodwork. Some we can customize to fit our needs, and the software requirements dictate some. The first of these became evident a few days ago, which involves the way a user name has to be entered during login.

If you reset your password using the username previously sent to you on August 23rd and were successful - you will need to do nothing unless you have a Jr., Sr. MD. Ph.D., III, or IV after your name. An explanation is given below.

If you are a junior, senior, or anything else after your last name, your username will be slightly different and be the one listed below:

If you had Jr., Sr. MD. Ph.D., III, or IV after your name, this was brought in as part of your last name, with a space, comma, and period. There were about 800 people in this category. These name suffixes had to be manually changed, and the Jr., Sr. MD. Ph.D., III, or IV were added to the end of your username, minus the comma, space and. You can save the username and password in your browser should you desire, which means you don't have to remember it every time you log in.

1. Your username is: XXXXXX

Your Email Address is: [XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX](#)

2. Please go to ussvi.org , click on member login in the upper right-hand corner, then click Forgotten Password and enter your email address USSVI has on file, and click submit. This will send you an email with a link to change your password. Your password is required to be twelve characters and requires capital, a number, and a symbol. Then you click on Member Login again at ussvi.org enter your username and your new password and click login.

3. The "Tools Menu" will be released on November 1st, after we have trained those users. Training will start September 15th - 2-3 times per week. A signup form will allow you to pick the session that works for you.

We are still working on the training component, which we plan to hold sessions on the week of September 15th. Getting the dates and times worked out now. You will sign up on a Google Form for a session that works for you. Likely 60-90 minutes - same training repeated many times. After that, we will hold a weekly drop-in clinic for an hour to answer questions.

4. For a bug report or broken link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepSGRaj5aLldFH16CmptLU5752tn_3hCoO-MklKgJKs2cTw/viewform

5. To suggest an improvement:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSddNUa6RmP2d6faqZSnlhXNbTDp6D7OtO--nw8X41AA8RI04A/viewform>

Please send all requests through these forms.

For other questions, please email ussviwebsitequestions@gmail.com.

Thank you again for being a member of USSVI and for your help as we work through issues with our new website!

Bill Andrea,
National Commander



USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2022-044

NEWS-01: USSVCF Positions openings

Submitted by: Ken Earls, USSVCF President on 9/13/2022

Shipmates,

For over 20 years your Charitable Foundation has been in operation and yet the vast majority of USSVI members are unaware of what their Charitable Foundation actually does. Yes, we award scholarships annually however, we do much more and we want to communicate better.

WE NEED HELP with our communications.

- Can you write?
- Can you express ideas in a way that others can understand?
- Would you like to assist in a worthy venture?
- Would you like to help build the USSV Charitable Foundation into the noble and formidable organization that some of us can envision?

We are searching for a person to assist in helping us publicize the USSV Charitable Foundation. You will be a part of a team, working with others who have deep commitments toward this effort.

This can be one person handling both Publicity and Public Relations or it can be two separate positions, working together in Publicity and Public Relations. Two similar activities and both need to be addressed. We need you if this fits your skill sets and interests. How much time would be involved? That would be up to you. It doesn't take long to write a short paragraph, if you know what to say. That's our dilemma, we need that wordsmith who knows how to express an idea that can stick with the reader.

Contact me if interested.

Thank you.

Ken Earls, President
 USSV Charitable Foundation
kenearlss@gmail.com
www.ussvcf.org
 928-308-4488 - Mobile



Think about this.

Pomu (Native Americans long ago)

September 6 at 9:22 PM ·

“Before I was six years old, my grandparents and my mother had taught me that if all the green things that grow were taken from the earth, there could be no life. If all the four-legged creatures were taken from the earth, there could be no life. If all the winged creatures were taken from the earth, there could be no life. If all our relatives who crawl and swim and live within the earth were taken away, there could be no life. But if all the human beings were taken away, life on earth would flourish. That is how insignificant we are.”

Russell Means, Oglala Lakota Nation (November 10, 1939 – October 22, 2012).

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Analogy of A Buzzard, A Bat and A Bumble Bee

The Buzzard

If you put a Buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a Buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

The Bat

The ordinary Bat that flies around at night, a remarkably nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw it self into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

The Bumble Bee

A Bumble Bee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

People

In many ways, we are like the Buzzard, the Bat, and the Bumble Bee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realizing that all we have to do is look up.

AMEN!!

=====

Whole world paused

The whole world paused this morning.

Do you know why? Because an 8 year old's tank was empty.

The boys had already started their school day at their desks and I was preparing to leave for work when I noticed my littlest standing in the bathroom wiping his face.

I paused at the door and asked if he was okay. He looked up with tears silently dripping and shook his head. When I questioned if something happened, again he shook his head.

So I sat on the side of the tub and pulled him in my lap. I told him sometimes our heart tanks feel empty and need to be refilled.

He cried into my chest and I held tight.

I asked if he could feel my love filling him up?

A nod, and tears stopped...

I waited a minute...

'Has it reached your toes yet?'

He shook his head no...

'Okay man. We will take as long as you need. Work doesn't matter right now. School isn't important either. This right here, is the most important thing today, okay? Filling you back to the top. Is that good?'

nods

One more minute...

'Is your heart full of mamas love now?'

'Yeah...'

looks in his eyes I see it shining in there, you're full to the top, and you're smiling!

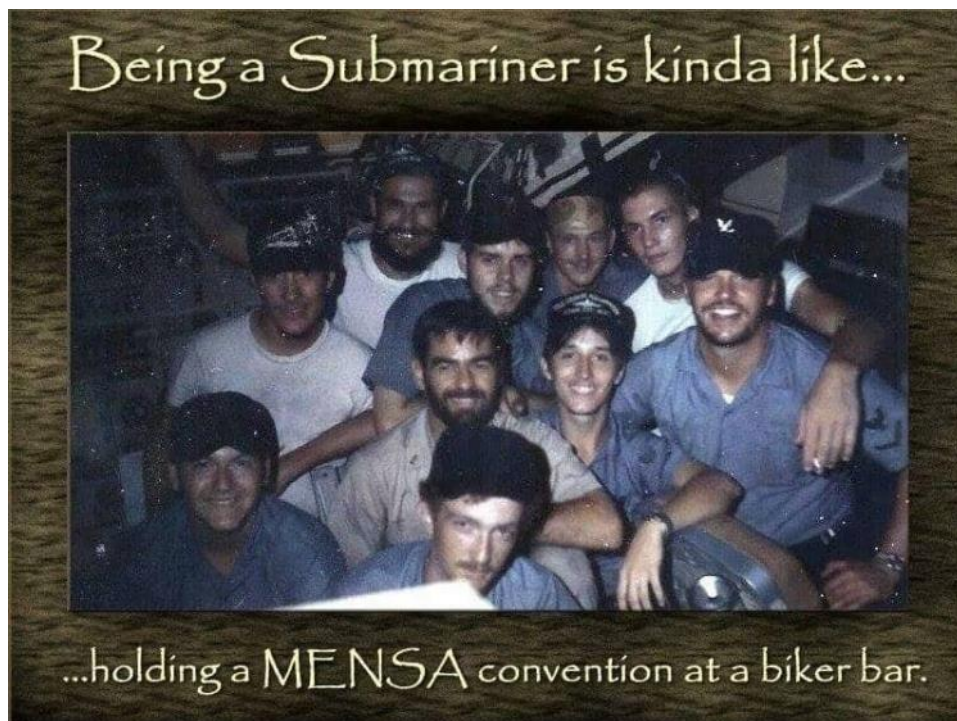
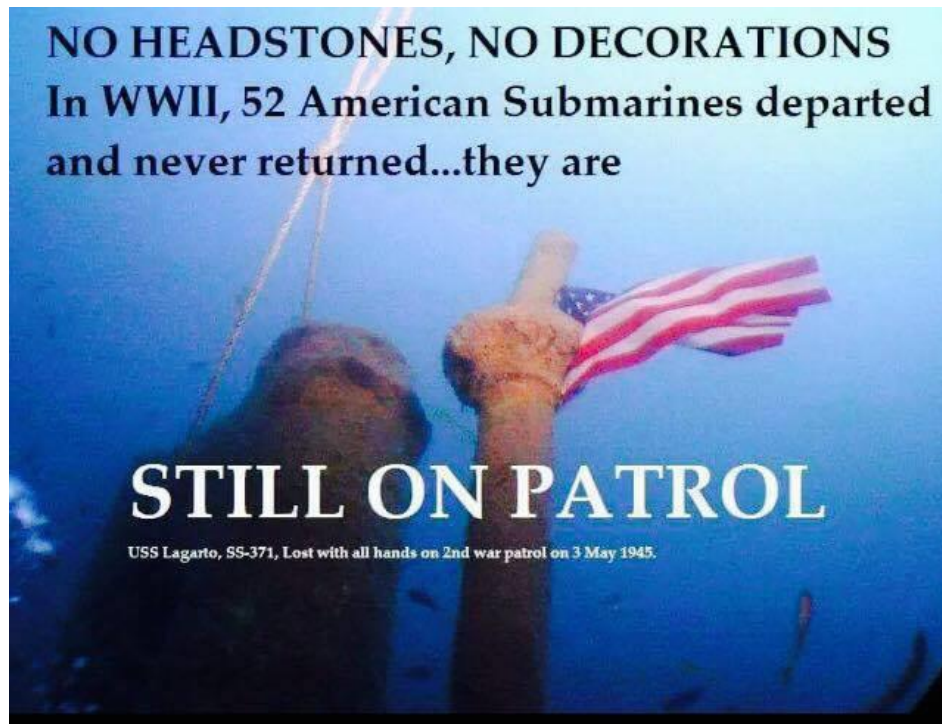
Y'all. You may not be 8- you may be 28, 38, 48 or whatever- but ALL of us run on empty just like he did. His

weekend was so busy and so full and his little soul was just dry!!!

We all have to pause, and take a moment to refill with the good things. Scripture, prayer, sunshine, worship, song, laughter, friends, hugs. Refill your empty, or you'll find those emotions (tears, anger, snappy words) overflowing with no reason why.

Take a moment. Refill. It's the most important part of your day! ☀️ 🌻

-Unknown





Some Dad Jokes

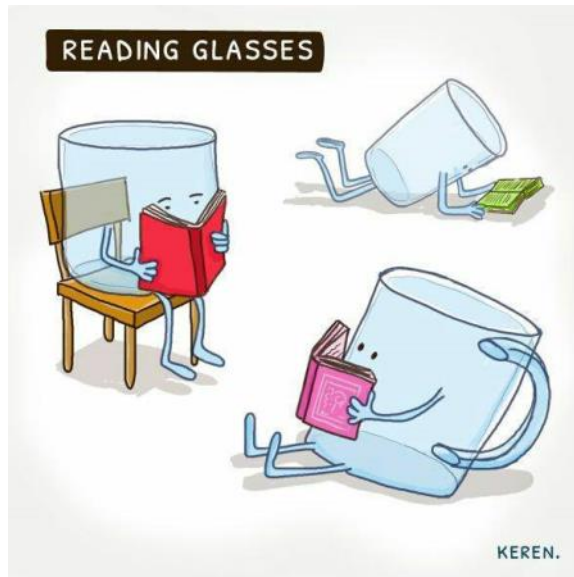
I have 2 unwritten rules.

- 1.
- 2.

Hey, I got a new Dog and named her 5 miles, so every day now I walk 5 miles.

Did you hear about the guy who got hit in the head with a can of soda? He's lucky it was a soft drink.

"Why do fathers take an extra pair of socks when they go golfing?" "In case they get a hole in one!"





SHIPMATES IN ACTION

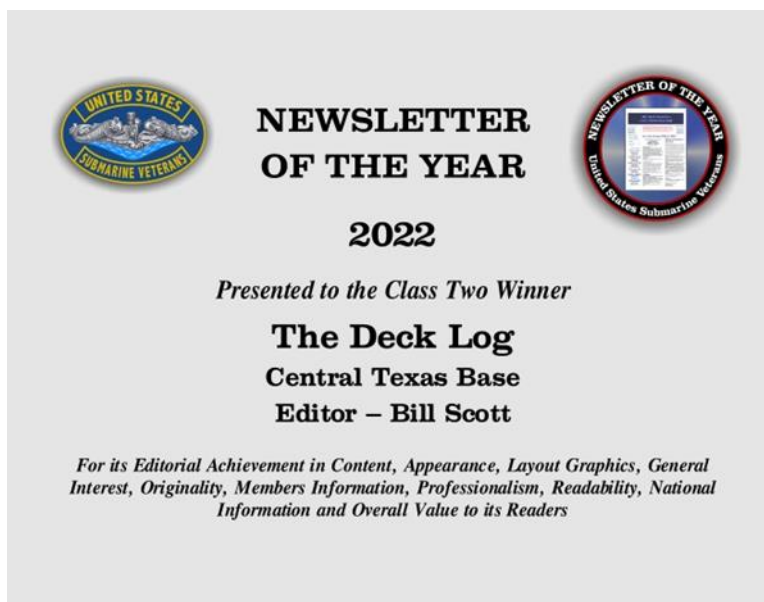
USSVI Central Texas Base

FB Post, 9/7/2022, 8:34 AM ·

Congrats! to our editor of "The Deck Log". Winner of the Class II Newsletter of the Year Award. You can read "The Deck Log" on our webpage (in the ship's library section) here: <https://ussvicentraltexasbase.org/>



National Commander Wayne Standerfer and Bill Scott



USSVI Central Texas Base

FB Post, 9/17/2022.



One of the great local organizations our base is able to support this year. This morning I was honored and privileged to visit and present a donation to the [WilCo Blue Star Mothers](#) to help them in their great work supporting veterans locally and around the world. All of these women have one or more sons and/or daughters serving in the military all around the world. Thank You ladies for your work and Thank You to your kids for their service!

USSVI Central Texas Base [September Friends and Family Base Social](#)

Good time and food on 17 September 2022 at the quarterly social held at [J&J BBQ & Burgers](#). The word going around was that the food was good and they did not disappoint. BBQ was outstanding and they offered a veteran discount. Our favorite kind of place! USSVI Pictures Social 9/17/22



J & J BBQ and Burgers Sign



Bob & Gladys



Don & Mary



Joe, Shawn & Harry



Kathy, Gene, Cricket and Chuck



Harry, Colin, Sam, Libby, Jean,
Frank Jennifer, Arlene



Tim and Nancy Pacl with
Garret Onderdonk in the
background.