



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.

Camaraderíe

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



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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.

Deck Log Editor

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USSVI WEB SITE: https://www.ussvi.org/

BASE WEB SITE: https://ussvicentraltexasbase.org/ FACEBOOK PAGE: https://www.facebook.com/ussvicentraltexas/

INSTAGRAM: 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.





Bob Steinmann

Hubert Jackso



2018, 2019, 2020,

2021, 2022

Williams

Rick Mitchell

Bill Scot

2017, 2020

2020 Base

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.navytimes.com/



Sub Vet Store (americommerce.com)



www.navyleagueaustin.org



www.moaa.org



http://www.submarinesailor.com



http://isausa.org/

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http://www.ussvi.org/base/CentralTexas.asp https://www.facebook.com/ussvicentraltexas/



http://www.military.com/



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



www.navyleague.org

www.shiftcolors.navy.mil





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



http://www.fra.org/



http://www.vfw.org/



http://www.usni.org/



http://www.va.gov/



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



http://www.dfas.mil/



https://www.silentservicechallengecoins.com/

SILENT RUNNING – MARCH

"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 Perch (SS-176)

Lost on March 3,1942 near Java with no immediate loss of life, while on her 1st war patrol. She survived 2 severe depth chargings in less than 200 feet of water by 3 Japanese destroyers. The crew abandoned ship and scuttled her. Of the 61 officers and men taken prisoner, 55 survived the war and six died as POWs.





USS Grampus (SS-207)

Lost on March 5, 1943 with the loss of 71 officers and men, on her 6th war patrol. She was lost in Vella Gulf, sunk after engaging 2 Japanese Destroyers. In company with USS Grayback, Grampus departed Brisbane, Australia on her 6th war patrol from which she failed to return, the manner of her loss still remains a mystery today.





USS H-1 (SS-28)

Lost on March 12, 1920 with the loss of 4 men as they tried to swim to shore after grounding on a shoal off Santa Margarita Island, off the coast of Baja California, Mexico. Vestal (AR-4), pulled H-1 off the rocks in the morning of 24 March, only to have her sink 45 minutes later in some 50 feet of water. She was originally named the USS Seawolf before becoming H-1.





USS Triton (SS-201)

Lost on March 15, 1943 with the loss of 74 men. She was sunk north of the Admiralty Islands during a fight with 3 Japanese Destroyers. Triton was the 1st boat to engage the enemy in December 1941 off Wake Island, sinking 9 ships, 1 submarine and a destrover.

USS Kete (SS-369)

Lost on March 20, 1945 with the loss of 87 officers and men at the end of her 2nd war patrol. Probably sunk near Okinawa, by a Japanese submarine that itself was subsequently lost.





USS F-4 (SS-23)

Lost on March 25, 1915 with the lost of 21 men. She foundered 1.5 miles off of Honolulu when acid corrosion of the lead lining of the battery tank let seawater into the battery compartment, causing loss of control. She was raised in August 1915.





USS Tullibee (SS-284)

Lost on March 26, 1944 with the loss of 79 officers and men, on her 4th war patrol. It's believed she was a victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. The lookout was the only survivor and he survived the war as a Japanese prisoner.



USS Trigger (SS-237)

Lost on March 26, 1945 with the loss of 89 officers and men, on her 12th war patrol. She was lost during a combined attack by Japanese antisubmarine vessels and aircraft. Trigger ranked 7th in total tonnage sunk and tied for 8th in number of ships sunk.

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



Shipmates,

Welcome to March Shipmates!

This month we have our quarterly social scheduled for March 18th @ 1330. It will be at Mesa Rosa in North Austin/Round Rock. It's on 620. Thanks to Harry Ullmann for getting this set up and all of you who took the time to RSVP so we can make sure to be properly prepared. Currently we have about 50 saying they will be there. I have not been there before but hear a lot of good things about them. Hope to see you there on the 18th. Please note the time again, 1330.

In April we have the 3rd Annual Lone Star Subvet Round-Up coming up on April 13-16 in San Antonio. Registrations are moving along well and at a pace higher than last year.

Currently we have over 80 registered and many more coming in Not sure if we will get there or not but the Welcome Aboard and Banquet can only handle 120 people. Keep that in mind if you are considering coming. Get your registrations in ASAP. Even if you will not be attending any of the pay events I strongly encourage you to come down to San Antonio on Saturday the 15th and join us for a Tolling Ceremony right in front of the Alamo. What a great opportunity to share with the public. We'd love to fill the plaza with Subvets, Friends and Family. This is a great time to be in San Antonio and there is so much to do, why not bring your families down? Hope to see you there. More info is available in an ad elsewhere in this newsletter, our web page www.ussvicentraltexasbase.org or on our FB Page.

In April we also have a scheduled Kaps(SS)4Kid(SS) visit to McLane's Children's Medical Center in Temple, our base meeting and possibly the Red Poppy Festival. A pretty busy month but a lot of great opportunity to get out and visit shipmates, serve the community, and educate the public on who we are.

Lastly this month I wanted to say Thanks everyone who is out there all the time representing our base and supporting the community in various fashion but always maintaining "ultra quiet" and keeping your heads down and just serving. I want to mention a couple of these guys here in this report and I'd love to be able to show more people what you are out there doing by placing an article in this newsletter or maybe even the American Submariner. If you are one of these guys out there serving let me know what you are doing so we can record it. Bill Bellinghausen is one of those guys that serves in so many ways and everywhere. Even though he faces serious health challenges of his own that would keep many of us holed up at the house, Bill and his wife Karen have been serving USSVI and the scouting community for years. Spending money out of his own pocket and much of his time he travels all around Central Texas recognizing the young men and women who achieve the honor of becoming an Eagle Scout. Another guy I'd like to mention is Mike Gauthier. Mike has been quietly spending much of his time working on your submarine float out in Granger along with Jake when he's not traveling outside the state for business. I bet there are many of you out there doing things worthy of mentioning. Let us know about it.

Wishing all of you the very best. Thank you for everything you all do!

Respectfully,

Rick Mitchell - 512-639-0035 - mitch2@yahoo.com

USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MINUTES - FEBRUARY 15, 2022

Location: Georgetown VFW Post 8587, Georgetown, TX and Zoom.

Meeting opened at 19:03 by Rick Mitchell, Central Texas Base Commander.

E-Board was present

Minutes from Jan 2023 Meeting were approved

Sailing List: LOCAL 19

Binnacle List: Bill Bellinghausen, John Roberts, Bob Steinmann, Carla Mitchell, Chuck Trahan

Bob Steinmann: Led the base in our opening Prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance: Hubert Jackson

Tolling of the Boats - February and March: Gene Hall with Chuck Trahan Tolling the Bell

Officer and Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report: Virgil Claycamp

Current Total Funds as of 31 Jan 2023

1 Jan 2023 \$30,540.36 General: \$26,708.39 Memorial: \$3,831.97

31 Jan 2023 \$32,602.52
General: \$30,619.57
Memorial: \$3,832.95
Uncleared Checks (\$1,850.00)
The General Fund balance includes Funds for the Apr 2023 Lonestar SubVet Round-up

Kaps 4 Kids: 7 Dec 2023 event held at Dell Children's Hospital, Austin, TX, with one 3 year old male and his parents. The next planned visit will be 4 Apr at McLane's Children's Medical Center in Temple, TX, contact Shawn O'Shea if you are interested in participating.

Parade: The next event will be the Red Poppy Festival in Georgetown on 29 Apr 2023. Float should be ready, if not we'll borrow one.

Membership (Chuck Malone): 81 Current Members, 49 USSVI National Life, 41 Base Life, 40 Holland Club.

Memorial (Gene Hall): Nothing New on Memorial Park.

Birthdays 2023: 2/24 Dylan Gray, 3/1 Don Atkins, 3/9 Calvin Story, 3/11 Bill Scott, 3/11 Chris Munn, 3/16 Bob Steinmann, 3/22 Ray Wilgeroth, 3/23 Kim Newman, 3/24 Bobby Wakefield, 3/31 Chuck Malone and 3/31 Jack Pitts.

Unfinished, Ongoing and Old Business

Old Business:

Red Poppy Festival 28-30 April

Georgetown, TX. Parade will be on 29 April at 1000, line up will be around 0800. We will ask for RSVP for those needing to ride on the trailer; the parade is a great event with lots of community support, but is fast paced.

Lonestar Subvet Round-Up (San Antonio, TX)

13-16 April. The Menger Hotel is the event hotel. Tolling at the Alamo on Saturday (VADM Bird, Donna Jackson), Elvis at the Welcome Aboard, Banquet.

Register ASAP for a chance to receive Free Parking. Info is Online here:

Lone Star Subvet Round-Up – Central Texas Base (ussvicentraltexasbase.org)

Memorial Day Tolling of the Boats

Will be at Memorial Park in Taylor, Texas with City Support, which has a large covered area in the event of rain. The Guest Speaker will be MMCM(SS) Duane Ariola, Retired in 2005, current Taylor City Council Member, American Legion Vice Commander, and is a Taylor High School Alumni.

July 4th Event

The plan is to be in the parade in Round Rock. We hope to have a static display and booth at Old Settlers Park. More information as we get closer to the date.

NEW Business:

March Social:

The March social will be on 18 Mar 2023 at Mesa Rosa Mexican Restaurant, 15515 Ranch Rd 620 N, Austin, TX 78717 in Round Rock, TX. Please RSVP to the Evite sent out by Rick Mitchell or contact him directly to help plan for the number attending.

National Web Site: https://www.ussvi.org/: Work is on hold for now. Use https://ussubvets.org/home.asp. Tim Carlisle had a fall and sustained injuries that are impacting his ability to work on the National Web Site.

National Dues Increasing 1Apr2023 from \$25 to \$30. No change in Base Dues for now.

Shipmate on Eternal Patrol – Ken Johnson was a longtime member of CTB but transferred to the Brazos Valley Base due to location. He was hospitalized in Jan 2022 and passed away in July 2022.

Agent Orange and the Blue Water Navy. Bob Steinmann brought up that the definition of services areas subject to Agent Orange involvement have increased. Some of us will look into what the changes may be.

Carl Repp thanked the base for their response in helping with a memorial service for his father-in-law Ned Snowden and read a thank you note from Diane and Carl.

Frank Espinosa mentioned that the American Legion and VFW Scouts will be placing Flags at the IOOF Cemetery on 20 May 2023 at 0800; more information will follow.

Shawn O'Shea made us aware of the Heroes Below organization that helps Veterans by utilizing underwater stress reduction and relaxation. This can help some with those experiencing PTSD systems. More at http://heroesbelow.org

Bill Scott indicated that folks should start considering nominations for awards. Further information will follow.

Good of the Order

50/50 Raffle - \$37.50 of \$75 was won by Carl Repp and donated to the Memorial Fund

Next Event – 18Mar2023, 13:30. Base Social at Mesa Rosa, 15515 Ranch Road 620 N.

Next Meeting - 19 April Nov2023 VFW Post 8587 with ZOOM

Sailing List

Base Members and Visitors: Local at the VFW Post 8587 (19): Harry Boyer, Virgil Claycamp, Jack Collins, Byran Eaton, Frank Espinosa, Gene Hall, Hubert Jackson, Colin King, Chuck Malone, Rick Mitchell, John Odom, Shawn O'Shea, Carl Repp, Bill Scott, Bob Steinmann, Chuck Trahan, Harry Ullman, Curt Webber and Frank Abernathy.

Meeting Adjourned by Rick Mitchell, 2007 hours

Minutes submitted by Frank Abernathy, Yeoman, 20Feb2023

BASE TREASURER'S REPORT

15 February 2023

Financial Report for Period Ending 1/31/2023

Beginning Balance - 1/1/2023	\$30,540.36
RBFCU Checking (General Fund)	\$30,619.57
RBFCU Savings (Memorial Fund)	\$3,832.95
Un-cleared Checks	-\$1,850.00
Ending Balance - 1/31/2023	\$32,602.52

Submitted: Virgil Claycamp, Treasurer

MARCH 2023Don Atkins - 1 st Calvin Story - 9 th Bill Scott - 11 th Chris Munn - 11 th Chris Munn - 11 th Charles Matula - 15 th Bob Steinmann - 16 th Ray Wilgeroth, Sr - 22 nd Kim Newman - 23 rd Bobby Wakefield - 24 th Chuck Malone - 31 st Jack Pitts - 31 st	CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MEMBERSHIP Report presented to Base Commander w/copy the Yeoman. Members listed in Central Texas Database Regular Annual Members National Life Members Base Life Members Holland Club Members Associate Members Dual Members Prospective Members: War Veterans Members pending: Submitted: Chuck Malone, Membership	to 81 23 49 41 40 1 3 0 70 0

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 <u>vclaycamp@yahoo.com</u>. 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.

They're here! Our new Base Challenge Coins are now available, and they only cost \$10! Thanks to Shelly Saxon at (SS) Challenge Coins for helping us with this project and Bill Scott for getting this done.

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.

John Roberts, Bob Steinman, Bill Bellinghausen, Chuck Trahan (back surgery), Carla Mitchell, Other Shipmates not CTB members?

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 inperson and Zoom meetings.

18 March 2023, Central Texas Base Quarterly Social, 1330 hours, Mesa Rosa, 15515 Ranch Road 620 N, Asutin, TX. See the Evite posted in Base email.

13-16 April 2023, 2023 Lonestar Subvet Round-up, The Menger Hotel, San Antonio, TX. Lone Star Subvet Round-Up – Central Texas Base (ussvicentraltexasbase.org)

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

28-30 April 2023, Red Poppy Festival Parade, Georgetown, TX, 29 April @ 1000 with line up at 0800.

20 May 2023, Planting and Pick-up of U.S. Flags @ IOOF Cemetery, 1117 E. 7th Street, Georgetown, TX 78626, by VFW Post 8587 and American Legion Post 174 and their chartered Boys Scout troops, for Memorial Day Observance, planting - Saturday, 20 May @ 0800, pick-up/retrieval - Saturday, 3 June @ 0800.

29 May 2023, Memorial Day Tolling of the Boats Ceremony, Taylor, TX. Details TBD.

KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS)

DELL Children's Medical Center – Round Rock, is opening up for outside visitors and events like Kap(SS) 4Kid(SS). Our K4K team members hosted a wonderful event on February 7th that put a smile on the children's faces. I have scheduled another visit on April 4th, 2023 with Baylor, Scott, White McLane Children's Medical Center - Temple to put a smile on those children's faces. Anyone interested in joining the Kap(SS)4Kid(SS) team, and want to volunteer to get on the roster to attend one of our upcoming events, please contact me at 702-682-9170 or soshea77@outlook.com.

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

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Chris and Taya Kyle

Shared on Facebook 2/2/23

February 2, 2023. What an interesting date to see on paper.

Was 2013 so long ago? Time will never fully make sense to me. It's elusive.

I have so many memories of that day in 2013 that I could share with you, and I did in American Wife, I suppose. But how will that serve you today?

Today, I am honoring Chris by sharing what his life and passage to heaven taught me in hopes that it helps carry part of his legacy straight to you and yours. It may be the best I can offer today, and I think Chris's heart for God and service would be pleased.

If you're hurting, you will heal. Run when you need to. Rest when you need to. Grieve when you can. There are many healthy ways to heal. Find them. Not all at once. One at a time. Give time, time.

When you love, it will last. Love isn't wasted.

Do your best to live without regrets. You will have them anyway. They do not serve you or anyone else. Let them go.

The best prayers you can pray are: "I trust You." "Before I am anything else, I am Yours." "Thank You." "I'm inviting You in. Change me" "Vengeance isn't mine."

Only some people can stay in your life. You can love them and let them leave. Boundaries are necessary.

Heaven is real. Jesus is real. Your soul was never meant for this to be home. Home awaits you.

Don't rush the door. Don't take it into your own hands. You are needed here. There is a plan. Wait for it.

Stay strong. Stay faithful. Be still once in a while.

He. Is. God. He. Is. Capable. He. Is. Willing. He. Is. Working.

He knows you. He loves you. He holds you in His hands.

You are His, and He is Yours.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18, Romans 8:18, Galatians 6:8, Psalm 63:3-4, Revelation 7:16-17



USSVI Central Texas Base - Members Group

Facebook post, 1-31-2023

Carl Repp

It such a great honor to be part of a wonderful organization with some amazing guys. Thanks for coming out in the middle of the night to give my father-in-law, NED SNOWDEN honors for his military service. These guys did not really know him, but chose to come out and show him respect as they took him away. Ned went to his final duty station in Heaven, on Tuesday January 24th at his home. His wife and family are eternally grateful to Rick and the group.



Sunset

Rendering Honors

Rick presenting flag to Carl's Mother

Comments:

Dian Snowden Repp - Amen! Truly an exemplary group of men and women who live to honor and serve. So proud and grateful! (Ned's daughter, Dian)

Frank Abernathy - Fair Winds and Following Seas, Mr Snowden....

Bill Bellinghausen - Payers for Ned and the Family
Roy Silva - Awesome group of men that love to serve!
W Jack Collins - Sending my prayers



Former Shipmate on Eternal Patrol

William (Ken) Johnson was a longtime member of CTB but transferred to the Brazos Valley Base due to location. He was hospitalized in Jan 2022 and passed away in July 2022.



Shipmates in Action

Feb 23 Sub Vets get together for lunch



On a perfect sunny not too hot of a day in Texas. Subvets gathered at Crazy Gal Café in Burnet, Texas. This was an informal get together and all of those that showed up had lots of fun talking, laughing, and telling their stories. Attendees were Harry Boyer, Harry Ullmann, Shawn O'Shea, Hubert Jackson, Gene Hall, Bill Brinkman, Chris Munn, Chuck Malone. Food was good and a real fun time together. Some customers stopped at our table to talk about different subjects. One gentleman wanted to find his submarine buddy, and USSVI information was provided to him by our members to help him reach out and try and locate his veteran friend. He was a US Navy aircraft carrier veteran. Brinkman brought his Army veteran as a guest to the SubVet lunch party. A good time was had for all.

Shawn O'Shea

Just found out that the company that makes yardsticks won't be making them any longer.



National Convention Update

Note: This went out to all USSVI Members

Dennis Ottley, 2023 National Convention Chairman

ussviwesterndistrict1@gmail.com via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com, 2-1-2023

Dear Shipmates,

Thank you all for your patience as we are ready for registration for the 2023 National Convention in Tucson from 28 August to 3 September 2023 at the Tucson Hilton El Conquistador and Resort.

Convention registration - Go to the <u>ussvi.org</u> website log in and under the Members tab, click on the 2023 Convention link, which will take you to the convention page. Under the Convention tab are the registration links.

- 1. Online link the registration process pays via a credit card. Each line item carries an upcharge to account for the credit card fee that will be charged for this convenience.
- 2. Manual a <u>fillable pdf</u> form that can be completed, downloaded, and mailed with your check or money order to the PO Box for registering for the convention. Please check your math and make your form legible to avoid mistakes that will cause delays in finalizing registration.

Hotel Reservation - Click this link to a special page for the Hilton El Conquistador, where the room rate is \$99/night. If you have special needs, call Elicia Robles, Group Registration Coordinator, at 520.544.1155. The resort fee will be waived at checkout.

Vendor Tab - 3 documents are noted:

- 1. Magazine ad form. We encourage all Regions, Districts, and Bases to contribute to the convention's success by placing an ad. Costs, instructions, and mailing info are noted on the form.
- 2. Sponsor form. Here we look for sponsors that support our Convention. Any suggestion or recommendation for sponsors would be greatly appreciated.
- 3. Vendor agreement. This form is for the vendors to secure a table in the Hospitality Suite during the convention.

Communication Tab - there are tabs for contacting the webmaster and convention chair. Please utilize these for comments or questions.

Shipmates Attending - Will be updated as registrations are made.

Reunions - Listed here will be the boat reunions registered with Elicia Robles. All Sub Reunion Coordinators are encouraged to participate in the National Convention. Questions can be directed to Richard "Ozzie" Osentoski (<u>ussronquil@yahoo.com</u>) or Bob Bowe (<u>bob.bowe@outlook.com</u>). Bob is the local Reunion Committee Chair.

Off-Sites - Our off-sites include four venues. All are to be handled by a professional staff to make your tour a more enjoyable experience. They are:

- 1. Biosphere II
- 2. Pima Air and Space Museum
- 3. Desert Museum
- 4. Gaslight Theater—melodrama playing will be Harry Potter

Going forward, we will publish additional information on the National email blast to keep all informed. See you out West in Tucson this August.

Dennis Ottley, 2023 National Convention Chair

National Convention Update

From the Desk of National Commander Bill Andrea

2023 National Convention Hotel Fees

NC Bill Andrea via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com, , 2-6-2023

Dear Shipmates,

When registering with the hotel for the 2023 Convention in Tucson, regardless of what the registration form or what the hotel staff may tell you, there will NOT be a Resort Fee charged. If it is initially added to the charge, it will definitely be removed from your bill.

Respectively, Bill Andrea, NC

National Convention Update

From the Desk of National Commander Bill Andrea

2023 National Convention Hotel Fees

NC Bill Andrea via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com, , 2-6-2023

IMPORTANT !! Please read

The mistakes on the 2023 National Convention website (Hotel Room Rates, Pricing on the Online Registration Form etc.) have been corrected.

Disregard the notation found on the hotel registration page that says, "Daily Resort Charge will be added to the room rate". By our contract with the hotel the "Resort Charges" have been waived.

Please use this link <u>2023 CH - United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (ussvi.org)</u> to access registration (Both convention and hotel) and other pertinent convention information.

We regret any inconveniences or problems from prior attempts to register for our convention.

Additionally, if using the "Online Convention Registration Form" and paying by credit card, it will automatically add approximately a 3% credit card fee.

Alternatively, you may fill out, download, and print the "2023 Convention Paper Registration Form" to mail in with a check to avoid a credit card fee.

V/R, Bill Andrea, NC

Veterans Service Officer Updates

From the Desk of John Dudas, Veteran Service Officer

John Dudas, Veteran Service Officer via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com, 2-8-2023

Shipmates,

The CBO notice for Tricare for Life Retirees to Get a Second Chance to Enroll In or Opt Out of the Survivor Benefit Plan

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/12/23/retirees-get-second-chance-enroll-or-opt-out-of-survivor-benefit-plan.html? ESRC=mr_230102.nl

More Than a Million Tricare Users Must Switch Managers After Massive Contract Decision

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/12/23/more-million-tricare-users-must-switch-managers-after-massive-contract-decision.html?ESRC=mr_230102.nl

In Major Step, Space Force Takes Over All Military Satellite Communications

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/12/27/major-step-space-force-takes-over-all-military-satellite-communications.html? ESRC=mr_230102.nl

Eight Years After Problem Spotted, Veterans Affairs Continues to Overpay on Post-9/11 GI Bill

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/12/24/eight-years-after-problem-spotted-veterans-affairs-continues-overpay-post-9-11-gibill.html?ESRC=mr_230102.nl

Judge Blocks 3M From Shifting Liability on Military Earplug Lawsuits

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/12/24/judge-blocks-3m-shifting-liability-military-earplug-lawsuits.html?ESRC=mr_230102.nl

12-Week Military Parental Leave Benefit Will Be in Place by January

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/12/15/12-week-military-parental-leave-benefit-will-be-place-next-month.html? ESRC=mr_230102.nl

2023 Military Pay Chart

https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/charts?ESRC=mr_230102.nl

2023 Military Pay Dates

https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/military-pay-ates.html?ESRC=mr 230109.nl

Navy Delays Requirement for Some Sailors to Pay for Moves Using Government Charge Cards

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/03/navy-delays-requirement-some-sailors-pay-moves-using-government-chargecards.html?ESRC=navy-a_230104.nl

A Look at the New Veterans Headed to Congress in January

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/12/29/look-new-veterans-headed-congress-january.html?ESRC=navy-a 230104.nl

Veterans Face Extended Delays for Referrals for Specialty Care Outside VA Facilities, Watchdog Finds

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/05/veterans-face-extended-delays-referrals-specialty-care-outside-va-facilities-watchdogfinds.html?ESRC=mr_230109.nl

Get Ready for Fort Liberty: The Pentagon Begins Changing Confederate Base Names

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/06/get-ready-fort-liberty-pentagon-begins-changing-confederate-base-names.html? ESRC=mr_230109.nl

Tricare Dental Program to Expand Choice of Carriers Under New Law

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/12/28/tricare-dental-program-expand-choice-of-carriers-under-new-law.html? ESRC=mr_230109.nl

Your 2023 State Veteran Benefits

https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/state-veterans-benefits-directory.html?ESRC=navy-a_230111.nl

Pentagon Unveils New Parental Leave Policy After Delay Caused Uncertainty for Troops

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/04/pentagon-unveils-new-parental-leave-policy-after-delay-caused-uncertaintytroops.html?ESRC=navy-a_230111.nl

New Law Expands VA Program for Veterans to Buy Vehicles Adapted for Their Disabilities

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/09/new-law-expands-va-program-veterans-buy-vehicles-adapted-their-disabilities.html? ESRC=navy-a_230111.nl

Best of 2022: Top Veteran Resources of the Year

https://news.va.gov/114800/best-of-2022-top-veteran-resources-of-the-year/? utm_source=middle&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=VetResources&utm_id=11JAN2023

Retirees, Civilians, Want to Live in Base Housing? Yes, You Can!

https://www.military.com/money/home-ownership/renting-house/retirees-civilians-want-live-base-housing-yes-you-can.html

Why the Skilcraft Pen Has Been Used by the Military for 55 Years

https://www.military.com/history/why-skilcraft-pen-has-been-used-military-55-years.html?ESRC=mr_230116.nl

US Navy Ships Caught a Fishing Boat Smuggling Over 2,000 AK-47 Rifles from Iran

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/10/us-navy-ships-caught-fishing-boat-smuggling-over-2000-ak-47-rifles-iran.html? ESRC=mr_230116.nl

Feds Try to Seize Money, Property from Church Accused of Multimillion-Dollar Scheme Targeting Vets

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/12/feds-try-seize-money-property-church-accused-of-multimillion-dollar-scheme-targeting -vets.html?ESRC=mr_230116.nl

VA to Waive Medical Copays for Native American, Alaskan Native Vets

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/11/va-waive-medical-copays-native-american-alaskan-native-vets.html? ESRC=eb_230112.nl

Navy Might Have to Choose Between Arming the Service and Aiding Ukraine Due to Ammo Delays, Officials Say

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/11/navy-might-have-choose-between-arming-service-and-aiding-ukraine-due-ammodelays-officials-say.html?ESRC=eb_230112.nl

Widow's Tax' on Survivors Will Be Completely Gone as of Feb. 1 Benefit Checks

https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/2023/01/13/widows-tax-survivors-will-be-completely-gone-of-feb-1-benefit-checks.html?ESRC=navy-a_230118.nl

Pentagon Drops COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate for Troops

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/11/pentagon-drops-covid-19-vaccine-mandate-troops.html?ESRC=navy-a 230118.nl

Congressional Budget Office Notice (CBO)

https://app.box.com/s/pfqbr6rnpfafk1z5tpytt4fcp5gnm5pq

Tricare 2024 Redistricting

https://app.box.com/s/hzx4ea6xuwja1zbf90a7lp362wcok69o

Guam Submarine Listing for PACT Act

https://app.box.com/s/gl3o17wd33l3dmq1txntdjyuh63ffde0

I think this is important enough to get this out to all of our members, along with the explanation of the listings. There are 48 submarines on this current listing.

The attached listing is an Adobe PDF for anyone to use at their discretion.

The Comments section lists the location of the various boats based on the Deck Log searches. There are 3 codes in the Basis column, <u>Guam</u> for boats that were in Guam, <u>AE (Expeditionary Service)</u> for boats that were within the Territorial limits, and <u>VS (Vietnam Service)</u> for boats that were also within the Territorial limits from their search of the Deck Logs. These logs are held by the National Archives (NARA).

Additional searches are being conducted for the two Submarine Tenders that were also in Guam because their Deck Logs will list <u>every boat</u> that was tied up while they were in Guam on a <u>daily</u> basis. This will add more to the list, but the Daily Deck Log search is taking more time due to the enormous number of years to search the daily logs. When completed, this listing will also be published.

I hope this helps everyone match their time onboard their specific boat with the times stated on this listing and file their presumptive claims as they see fit.

The Military Veterans Association (MVA) is the group with contacts at NARA who are conducting this search on our behalf. Please join me in giving them a Bravo Zulu for their efforts in helping the entire Submarine Service with their claims at the Veterans Administration.

Respectively, John Dudas, Veteran Service Officer

USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2023-002

NEWS-01: Injury Notification

Submitted by: William C. Andrea on 2/11/2023

Shipmates,

Thursday afternoon, our Chief Technology officer and Webmaster, Tim Carlisle had an accident at work and injured his head and neck, resulting in corrective surgery to 6 of his cervical vertebrae. As a result of Tim's accident, work on the new website will be put on hold until he recovers and recuperates from his surgery. In the meantime, continue using our old website, <u>www.ussubvets.org</u>. All bulletins will also be sent out thru our old POC Broadcast system, so be sure to pass them down to all members.

Please do not contact Tim so he may concentrate on getting better.

We all wish Tim a full and speedy recovery.

V/R Bill Andrea, NC

USSVI National Bulletin

From the Desk of National Commander Bill Andrea

Eternal Patrol, Shipmate Tommy Cox

NC Bill Andrea via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com, 2-23-2023

Shipmates,

Sadly, our Shipmate Tommy Cox departed on Eternal Patrol 2-19-2023. Tommy was a CTICS(SS) (SPOOK) that qualified on the USS Lapon, SSN 661 in 1969. Throughout his Cold War career, Tommy rode 12 different submarines, doing whatever "Spooks" do. Additionally, Tommy was a Master Balladeer, writing and singing Submarine Ballads, of which, "Big Black Submarine" was probably his most famous.

Thank you, Tommy, for your service to your country, your Shipmates and the Submarine Service.

Sailor, Rest Your Oar.

I am including a YouTube link with some of Tommy's songs.

Take Her Deep - YouTube

V/R, Bill Andrea, NC

Veterans Service Officer Updates

From the Desk of John Dudas, Veteran Service Officer

John Dudas, Veteran Service Officer via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com, 2-25-2023

USSVI VSO News for March 2023

Shipmates,

2023 VA health care copay rates

https://www.va.gov/health-care/copay-rates/

Standard Daylight Savings Time will change in November 2023 (if passed)

https://www.timeanddate.com/news/time/us-permanent-dst.html

2023 USAA Military Pay Deposit Dates

https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/usaa-military-pay-deposit-dates.html?ESRC=navy-a_230201.nl

VA Wants Vets to Use Their Benefits When Choosing a Final Resting Place

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/25/va-wants-vets-use-their-benefits-when-choosing-final-resting-place.html?ESRC=navy -a 230201.nl

How to Find Out What's on Your Navy-Wide Advancement Exam

https://www.military.com/join-military/navy-advancement/how-find-out-whats-your-navy-wide-advancement-exam.html

Tricare Beneficiaries Are Suffering. The Biden Administration Refuses to Hear Them Out.

https://www.military.com/daily-news/opinions/2023/01/26/tricare-beneficiaries-are-suffering-biden-administration-refuses-hear-themout.html?ESRC=navy-a_230201.nl

Military Families Worried About Tax Bills After W-2s Show No Income Tax Withheld

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/27/military-families-worried-about-tax-bills-after-w-2s-show-no-income-tax-withheld.html? ESRC=navy-a_230201.nl

Tricare Will Pay for More Dialysis Services Following COVID-Linked Rise in Kidney Disease

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/02/01/tricare-will-pay-more-dialysis-services-following-covid-linked-rise-kidney-

disease.html?ESRC=eb 230202.nl

Making Sure Vets Get PACT Act Benefits Is New House Veterans Affairs Chairman's Top Priority

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/31/making-sure-vets-get-pact-act-benefits-new-house-veterans-affairs-chairmans-toppriority.html?ESRC=eb_230201.nl

VA to Congress: Keep Pandemic Rule Allowing Prescriptions Across State Lines

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/31/va-congress-keep-pandemic-rule-allowing-prescriptions-across-state-lines.html? ESRC=eb_230201.nl

8 Popular Cruise Lines That Offer Military Discount

https://www.military.com/discounts/cruise-line-military-discounts.html?ESRC=eb_230201.nl

State Tax Information for Military Members and Retirees

https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/state-tax-information.html?ESRC=mr_230130.nl

Millions of Tricare Users Must Approve Mail-Order Prescription Refills Starting Now

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/24/millions-of-tricare-users-must-approve-mail-order-prescription-refills-startingnow.html?ESRC=mr_230130.nl

Military Members and Spouses Could Avoid State Income Taxes Thanks to New Law

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/18/military-members-and-spouses-could-avoid-state-income-taxes-thanks-new-law.html? ESRC=navy-a_230125.nl

Making Sure Vets Get PACT Act Benefits Is New House Veterans Affairs Chairman's Top Priority

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/01/31/making-sure-vets-get-pact-act-benefits-new-house-veterans-affairs-chairmans-toppriority.html?ESRC=mr_230206.nl

Health Net Protests \$65.1 Billion Tricare Contract Award

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/02/09/health-net-protests-651-billion-tricare-contract-award.html?ESRC=eb_230210.nl

Will a Federal Fix for Complex License Rules Help Combat Military Spouse Unemployment?

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/02/09/will-federal-fix-complex-license-rules-help-combat-military-spouseunemployment.html?ESRC=eb_230210.nl

A Hill & Ponton Video: Congress is Trying to Take Away VA Benefits!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1IChntm5ec

Senators Push DoD to Do 'Proactive' Outreach to Soldiers Booted from Tricare in IT Glitch

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/02/06/senators-push-dod-do-proactive-outreach-soldiers-booted-tricare-it-glitch.html? ESRC=eb_230207.nl

VA Health Care Eligibility

https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-health-care-eligibility.html?ESRC=mr_230213.nl

Defrauding Veterans Would Be a Federal Crime Under Bill Pushed by Senators

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/02/14/defrauding-veterans-would-be-federal-crime-under-bill-pushed-senators.html? ESRC=navy-a_230215.nl

Navy Unveils System Meant to Counter Pay Delays, Other Paperwork Holdups

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/02/09/navy-unveils-system-meant-counter-pay-delays-other-paperwork-holdups.html? ESRC=navy-a_230215.nl

Pentagon Rethinking Its Decision on \$65.1 Billion Tricare Management Contract

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/02/13/pentagon-rethinking-its-decision-651-billion-tricare-management-contract.html? ESRC=eb_230214.nl

VA Would Have to Research Medical Marijuana Under Bill Advanced by Senate Panel

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/02/16/va-would-have-research-medical-marijuana-under-bill-advanced-senate-panel.html? ESRC=eb_230217.nl

Military to Cover Travel Costs and Offer Leave for Troops Seeking Abortions, Fertility Treatment

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/02/16/military-cover-travel-costs-and-offer-leave-troops-seekingabortions-fertility-treatment.html?ESRC=eb_230217.nl

VA Warns Against PACT Act Fraud Targeting Veterans

https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-warns-against-pact-act-fraud-targeting-veterans.html?ESRC=eb_230217.nl

Navy Lifts COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement for Deployments

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/02/17/navy-lifts-covid-19-vaccine-requirement-deployments.html?ESRC=eb 230220.nl

Veterans: What's Taxed and What's Not on Your Federal and State Returns

https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/veterans-whats-taxed-and-whats-not-your-federal-and-state-returns.html? ESRC=eb_230224.nl

VA Disability & VA Pension: What's the Difference? (video)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KiT7ZHvbd9w

Respectively John Dudas Veteran Service Officer

USSVI National Bulletin

From the Desk of the USSVI National Awards Chair

Harold W (Bill) Scott II, via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com, 2/28/2023

2023 USSVI National Awards Manual, Award Process Timelines

Shipmates,

From the Awards Manual:

Award Process Timelines

The periods set aside for nominations and selection will be strictly enforced.

FEBRUARY 1: Award Nomination period opens and all USSVI Members in good standing submit Award nominations to the National Awards Chair.

APRIL 30: All Award nominations must be received by the National Awards Chair at the close of business on this date.

MAY 17: The National Awards Chair submits nominations to the respective Award Selection Committee Chair for voting and selection of recipients.

JUNE 15: All Award Selection Committee Chairs report selections to the National Awards Chair.

The 2023 National Awards Manual is posted at: <u>https://ussubvets.org/Documents/</u> <u>Awards Manuals 2023 USSVI Awards Manual.pdf</u>, and at <u>https://www.ussvi.org/file/awards/2023-USSVI-</u> <u>Awards-Manual.pdf</u>.

Note the important timelines and deadlines for submitting USSVI National Awards Nominations.

Honored to Serve,

Harold W (Bill) Scott II, STSCS(SS) USN RET. USSVI National Awards Chair <u>Hscottss242@gmail.com</u> 512-826-8876



SUBMARINE NEWS

Russia Decommissions World's Largest Submarine

https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2023/02/russia-decommissions-worlds-largest-submarine/

Tomasz Grotnik 07 Feb 2023



Typhoon-class SSBN "Dmitry Donskoy" in the Great Belt on his way to Kronstadt. Flyvevåbnet / Royal Danish Air Force Picture.

The Russian Navy's Northern Fleet has finally decommissioned the "Dmitry Donskoy" (TK-208) Typhoonclass nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) according to Russia's TASS agency, citing cpt. Vladimir Maltsev, chairman of the All-Russian Fleet Support Movement, a non-governmental organization working for the good name of the Russian naval forces and shipping. It was the last of six Typhoon-class (Project 941) SSBNs, the largest ever built.

The news was initially reported by RIA Novosti agency as early as last August, citing a source in the militaryindustrial complex, but it was soon denied by Maltsev.

The *Dmitry Donskoy* was the first strategic nuclear-powered submarine of the Project 941 Akula (NATO code name: Typhoon), and also the longest remaining in service. This was due to its conversion into a test unit for the Bulava-M ballistic missile system with R-30 SLBM designed for the new-generation SSBNs of the project 995/995A Borey.

Dmitry Donskoy will await disposal at the naval base in Severodvinsk along with two other submarines of the project – *Arkhangelsk* and *Severstal*. The two nuclear reactors will be removed first, followed by the rest of the nuclear installation, then the steel structure will be scrapped. For now, no date has been given for the SSBN's dismantling.

The end of an era.

The TK-208 SSBN (official Russian designation: nuclear heavy submarine cruiser of strategic-purpose) was the prototype of a series of six units of the project 941 Akula (shark). The design of the vessel was developed

by the "Rubin" Design Bureau in Leningrad under the leadership of Sergey N. Kovalev.

SSBNs of the project 941 have gathered a lot of interest since their inception. They were caused mainly by their unmatched size, which became the reason for an entry in the "Guinness Book of Records", as well as by the external shape that gave rise to conjecture about the construction of the interior – long remaining a mystery. **Typhoon-class structure** consisted of two parallel main pressure hulls and separate modules arranged above them: command, torpedo and stern. A set of 20 missile launchers was deployed between the main hulls – without penetrating them. The whole construction is surrounded by a hydrodynamic outer hull. This arrangement made them the largest submarines ever built. The TK-208 measured 170.0×23.3 meters and displaced 48,000 tons submerged, more than most WWII battleships!

The keel of TK-208 was laid on July 17, 1976. The submarine was launched on September 29, 1980, and entered service on December 29, 1981. Five more submarines of this class were built. The seventh was not completed for financial and political reasons – both related to the collapse of the Soviet empire. In 2002, *Dmitry Donskoy* underwent the project 941UM modernization, after which it participated in tests of the Bulava missile system.

Politicians and high-ranking military officers of the USSR and Russia, including Gorbachev and Putin, liked to show up on the Typhoons. In 2017, *Dmitry Donskoy*, along with the heavy cruiser *Petr Velikiy*, project 11442, went from the Northern Fleet to the Baltic to take part in the central celebration of the Fleet Parade in Kronstadt. Its voyage was observed by NATO forces and caused a great – and justified – sensation.

Typhoon, one of the many manifestations of Soviet gigantomania, eventually made history. Today, the world's largest submarine is the BS-329 **Belgorod**, a special purpose unit, a carrier of 2M39 Poseidon nuclear torpedoes.

Naval Information Force Sending Officers, Enlisted Sailors to Submarines

By: Heather Mongilio

February 15, 2023 9:42 PM

https://news.usni.org/category/submarine-forces

SAN DIEGO – A Navy pilot program is testing the role of information warfare sailors and officers aboard submarines, the commander of Naval Information Forces announced Wednesday.

Two submarines – USS *New Mexico* (SSN-779) and USS *Washington* (SSN-787) – each have an information warfare junior officer and three sailors, Vice Adm. Kelly Aeschbach said during a talk at WEST 2023, hosted by the U.S. Naval Institute and AFCEA.

The submarine pilot started last year, Aeschbach told reporters after her discussion. Of the two junior officers, one was a cryptologist and one was an information professional, Aeschbach said.

The three sailor ratings on each submarine are a cryptologic technicians technical, a cryptologic technicians maintenance and intelligence specialist, she said.

So far, the feedback from the pilot program has been good, Aeschbach said. In addition to sailors bringing their knowledge to the submarine, the information warfare officer is able to oversee the information warfare efforts already on the vessel.

"So, the results have been very positive ... it's really, the only limitation is just going to be resourcing new officer billets," she said. "I think it's going to be the biggest challenge."

The thought is to start out with billets on submarines and eventually grow to every submarine, Aeschbach said.

The submarine pilot program is just one change Aeschbach is overseeing since she took over Naval Information Forces in May 2021. The vice admiral is also overseeing the creation of a cyber designator.

Aeschbach is waiting on more details on how many sailors and officers would be required. The first step is to draft requirements for the billets and determine a career path for the sailors.

There should be between 200 and 300 billets, the vice admiral said. In the late summer to early fall timeframe, Naval Information Forces will do a call for officers already serving to apply to get into the cyber designator. After that, Aeschbach and her team will look at how to bring in new officers who commission from the Naval Academy or through ROTC.

"I have a lot of junior officers who are really excited about the chance to serve solely in cyber and really focus on that specialty," she said. "So, I think we actually might be overwhelmed with applicants later this year from across the Navy, who are interested in serving in that role."

When creating the designator, Naval Information Forces needs to be careful not to hurt the other cyber areas, such as the National Security Agency, Aeschbach said.

"And so, we will have to be careful about how many cryptologists, how many information professionals, are allowed to transfer over to the cyber designator, but I do think for cryptologists in particular, where the dominant number of these billets, cyber billets, will come from, I really think if you're a pure cryptologist that this is really going to actually enhance our performance in those mission areas," she said.

There is already a cyber rating, the vice admiral said. It's just not clear because of its name – cryptologic technician network, which is part of the cryptologic series.

Under Congressional guidance, the cryptologic technician network will be taken out of the cryptologic series and a new cyber rating will be created, Aeschbach said. A name has not yet been decided but it will include cyber.

"And so, we'll have a family now of cyber designators like we do for intelligence, where we have officers and intelligence specialists," she said.

There will also be more training involved. When the Navy stood up its cyber mission force, it was good at staffing it, but the sea service did not establish a foundational training infrastructure to allow for sailors to have the right training as roles matured, she said.

Under the new cyber designator, there will be more dwell time for sailors so that the cyber units do not lose institutional knowledge as people's tours come to an end after two or three years in a position, the vice admiral said.

"So, we are doing some things a little bit differently in terms of our normal detailing and assignment model where we have come up with – we call it returning our closed loop detailing – but we're allowing folks now to stay inside the cyber mission force in order to really maximize the investment we make and allow them to be as exceptional as they can be," she said.

About Heather Mongilio

Heather Mongilio is a reporter with USNI News. She has a master's degree in science journalism and has covered local courts, crime, health, military affairs and the Naval Academy.

USS Louisiana marks Navy's last nuclear refueling overhaul for Ohio-class ballistic missile subs

Marks the last engineered refueling overhaul set for Navy's Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines this month.

Peiyu Lin, Kitsap Sun, 2/27/23



Those living along the shoreline of Hood Canal may have spotted a submarine sailing through the water on Friday. It was the USS Louisiana (SSBN-743), heading back to its homeport in Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor following the completion of its 41-month overhaul.

The Ohio-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) USS Louisiana arrived in Bremerton in August 2019 to conduct an Engineered Refueling Overhaul (ERO) at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. ERO is a type of refit to refuel Ohio-class SSBNs' nuclear power reactor and would extend a sub's service life for another 20 years. The Navy conducts EROs at Norfolk Naval Shipyard or Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, depending on where a submarine is assigned, in the 20th year of the submarine's life, according to Department of Defense's Inspector General report in June 2018.

USS Louisiana was the last submarine of the 18 Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines (four were converted to Guided Missile Nuclear Submarines, SSGNs) to undergo the nuclear refueling process. The first sub to do an ERO was USS Ohio, which was commissioned in 1981 and conducted an ERO from 2002 to 2005.

Among the 18 Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines' EROs, USS Louisiana's 41 months of overhaul was the longest. The USS Maine and USS Nebraska, the last two Bangor-based submarines conducting the process before Louisiana, spent 32 months and 40 months, respectively, undergoing the refueling process at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

"The Louisiana ERO included 120,000 more resource days of work than the Nebraska ERO, and 150,000 more resource days of work than the Maine ERO. Additionally, the length of Louisiana's ERO was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and unexpected new work items that included an unprecedented repair to a communication system," Puget Sound Naval Shipyard spokesperson Anna Taylor said.

A resource day is one shift worked. The Louisiana's ERO was the largest repair package in ERO history at more than 870,000 resource days, Taylor said.

In addition to the nuclear refueling, shipyard workers also overhaul or replace major components within the submarine, upgraded the boat's electronic systems, and configured more living spaces for women on the boat, Taylor said.

In 2010, Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates lifted the ban preventing women from serving aboard submarines. Ohio-class submarines were required to do habitability modifications to provide separate berthing and sanitary spaces for women submariners. Future Virginia-class and Columbia-class submarines are being built gender-neutral and will not require any habitability modifications, according to the Navy.

With the completion of the ERO, USS Louisiana on Feb. 9 departed the shipyard in Bremerton to conduct sea trials and test the sub's performance and seaworthiness. The boat returned to Bangor on Friday after the general evaluation, said Submarine Group 9 spokesperson Lt. Corey T. Jones.

It is the Navy's plan to replace all its Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines — eight based in Bangor — with 12 new Columbia-class SSBNs. The 14 Ohio-class SSBNs entered service between 1984 (USS Henry M. Jackson) and 1997 (USS Louisiana). Originally designed to serve for 30 years, the Ohio-class SSBNs were later certified for 42-year service lives, consisting of two approximately 19-year periods of operation separated by a midlife engineered refueling overhaul, according to a Congressional Research Service report in January 2023.

The Navy procured the first Columbia-class boat in Fiscal Year 2021 and wants to procure the second one in the class in FY 2024 and the remaining 10 at a rate of one per year from FY2026 through FY2035, according to the report. The Navy plans to begin replacing the Ohio-class boats with new Columbia-class SSBNs in 2031.

SSBNs perform a singular mission of strategic nuclear deterrence and are armed with submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs). SLBMs are large, long-range missiles armed with multiple nuclear warheads, according to the report.

Previous coverage: USS Louisiana, last of the ballistic missile submarine fleet, to begin refueling at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard

Reporter Peiyu Lin covers the military for the Kitsap Sun. She can be reached at <u>pei-yu.lin@kitsapsun.com</u> or on Twitter <u>@peiyulintw</u>



History

US World War II submarine lost for decades found off the coast of Japan

The USS Albacore was lost at sea in 1944 after stopping for fuel at Midway Island.

By Timothy H.J. Nerozzi | Fox News, February 17, 2023

US World War II submarine lost for decades found off the coast of Japan | Fox News

The wreckage of a lost U.S. submarine from World War II has been found off the coast of Japan.

<u>Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC)</u> confirmed Friday that a sunken craft off the coast of Hokkaido, Japan is the wreckage of the USS Albacore — a World War II-era U.S. submarine.

The wreckage was documented by Dr. Tamaki Ura with the <u>University of Tokyo</u>. Ura worked off contemporary records obtained through the Japan Center for Asian Historical Records mentioning the destruction of a U.S. submarine.

"As the final resting place for Sailors who gave their life in defense of our nation, we sincerely thank and congratulate Dr. Ura and his team for their efforts in locating the wreck of Albacore," retired U.S. Navy rear admiral and NHHC Director Samuel Cox said.

The USS Albacore is credited with <u>sinking at least 10 enemy vessels</u> during its years active and received nine battle stars. It was lost at sea in 1944 after fueling up at Midway Island.

He continued, "It is through their hard work and continued collaboration that we could confirm Albacore's identity after being lost at sea for over 70 years."

"The wreck of Albacore is a U.S. sunken military craft protected by U.S. law and under the jurisdiction of NHHC," the command said in its press release. "While non-intrusive activities, such as remote sensing documentation, on U.S. Navy sunken military craft is allowed, any intrusive or potentially intrusive activities must be coordinated with NHHC and if appropriate, authorized through a relevant permitting program."

The NHHC added, "Most importantly, the wreck represents the final resting place of Sailors that gave their life in defense of the nation and should be respected by all parties as a war grave."

Editor: From USSVI Lost Boats list: "Albacore was assumed to have been lost. According to Japanese records captured after the war, a submarine assumed to be Albacore struck a mine very close to the shore off northeastern Hokkaido on 7 November. 85 men lost."

Timothy Nerozzi is a writer for Fox News Digital. You can follow him on Twitter @timothynerozzi and can email him at timo-thy.nerozzi@fox.com

Poopie Suits & Cowboy Boots

From Facebook post, January 28 at 8:43 AM ·

Chaim Godalia Rickover, born 123 years ago yesterday in Poland. A diminutive fellow, young Rickover was only a third alternate for admission to the US Naval Academy. He finished with a respectable class rank of 107 out of 540--good but certainly not indicative of what would follow. This is his photo from the 1922 edition of the USNA yearbook "Lucky Bag". The caption for this photo read, in part, "Neither a star on the gridiron nor a terror in the pool, yet he did loom large through the chalk screens"--a nod to his academic chops.

Rickover's parents changed his first name as a child from Chaim to Hyman; Rickover himself changed his middle name to "George" when he entered the Naval Academy.

"Rickover" Photo courtesy of Keith Weitemeyer. In N/L folder

U.S. Naval Institute

Facebook post, 2/5/23 ·



When USS Independence encountered a full-rigged ship in 1962, the carrier signaled to ask the vessel to identify itself. "Training ship Amerigo Vespucci, Italian Navy," was the response." Independence replied "You are the most beautiful ship in the world." <u>#SeaStorySaturday</u>

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Naval Academy Building Renamed to Honor Former President Jimmy Carter

By: Heather Mongilio

February 17, 2023 3:04 PM

https://news.usni.org/2023/02/17/naval-academy-building-renamed-to-honor-former-president-jimmy-carter? ct=t(USNI_NEWS_DAILY)&mc_cid=e4facffd90&mc_eid=28ad6ec9e0

Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro renamed the Naval Academy building, formerly named after a member of the Confederacy, after the only U.S. president to attend the institution.

Maury Hall, which was named after Matthew Fontaine Maury, considered the father of naval oceanography who joined the Confederacy, will now be known as Carter Hall, named after former President Jimmy Carter, who graduated from the academy in 1946, reads a Navy press release.

"When Secretary Austin directed us to implement the recommendations of the Naming Commission, he instructed us to give proud new names. Names that echo with honor, patriotism, and history. Names that will inspire generations of service members to defend our democracy and our Constitution," Del Toro said during a renaming ceremony, according to the release. "Today, on the Friday before Presidents Day weekend, that is exactly what we are doing. I can think of no one more worthy of this renaming than President Jimmy Carter."

Carter is the only president to attend the academy.

"By naming this building in his honor we not only recognize his great contributions but ensure that his legacy will forever inspire our nation's future leaders," academy Superintendent Vice Adm. Sean Buck said in the release. "For generations to come, when midshipmen walk the corridors of Carter Hall, I have no doubt that they will be reminded of President Carter's example and his legacy of lifelong service, and reinvigorated with the call to serve we all answered when we took our first oath."

Carter Hall is one of two buildings identified on the academy's campus with names tied to the Confederacy by the Naming Commission, a group, led by retired Adm. Michele Howard, appointed by Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin to identify military assets that had links to the Confederacy.

At the Naval Academy, the group suggested the now former Maury Hall, Buchanan Road and Buchanan House, where the superintendent lives, for renaming. USS *Chancellorsvile* (CG-62) and USNS *Maury* (T-AGS -66) were also slated for new names. The Navy has not yet announced names for the ships.

Navy policy limits building names on the academy to deceased persons, although there are some exceptions, including Carter Hall, The Capital reported.

Hubbard Hall, which was named after Rear Adm. John Hubbard, is the first building on the academy to be named after a living person.

Traces of Texas

Facebook Post, 2/24/2023

130 years ago today (2/24/2015), Chester Nimitz was born in Fredericksburg. Little did anyone know that this boy from a small Texas Hill Country town would grow up to become Commander in Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet during World War II. Here's a photo of Chester in the Naval Academy at the age of 20, back in 1905. Salute!

United States Submarine Veterans

USS GRAYBACK (SS-208)

Lost on Feb 26,1944 with the loss of 80 officers and men on her 10th war patrol. She appears to have been caught on the surface in the East China Sea by a Japanese carrier plane whose bombs made a direct hit. On June 5th, 2019, Grayback was discovered off the coast of Okinawa resting at 1427 feet. Discovery of the Grayback: <u>https://youtu.be/ubNbxbwFb1</u>c







For English Language Lovers. What is the difference between 'Completed' and 'Finished'? No dictionary has been able to define the difference between 'Complete' and 'Finished.' But in a linguistic conference in England, Sun Sherman an Indian American, was the clever winner. His response: When you marry the right woman, you are 'Complete.' If you marry the wrong woman, you are 'Finished.' And when the right woman catches you with the wrong woman, you are 'Completely Finished.' His answer received a five minute standing ovation.

Oldtimers9.com

Tips from Grandma

Don't go where you're not invited. Don't talk about what you don't know. Don't open the fridge in other people's house. Don't call someone after nine o'clock at night. Don't visit someone at lunch.

March 2023

Don't enter other people's bedroom without permission.

Always flush the toilet when you use it.

Always, always ~ speak the truth.

Please & Thank You are good words ~ use them often.

Love the soul of people, not their physical ~ it is what is inside that matters.

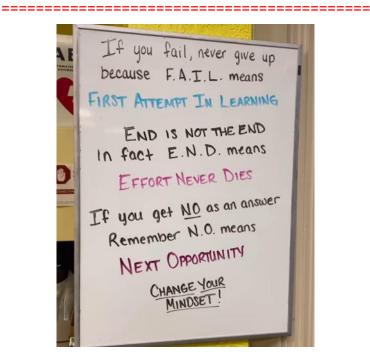
Be kind to your fellow humans & all living things.

Give from the little you have, expect nothing in return.

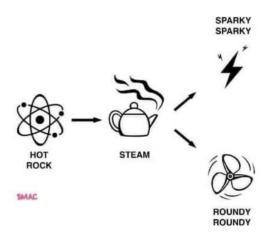
Be conscious of your words ~ they matter!

Wake up & be grateful.

Pray daily, because prayer brings peace to our heart & soul



Nuclear propulsion on a submarine explained



Stories For The Soul

Facebook Post, 11/15/2022

An old man meets a young man who asks:

"Do you remember me?"

And the old man says no. Then the young man tells him he was his student, And the teacher asks:

"What do you do, what do you do in life?"

The young man answers:

"Well, I became a teacher."

"ah, how good, like me?" Asks the old man.

"Well, yes. In fact, I became a teacher because you inspired me to be like you."

The old man, curious, asks the young man at what time he decided to become a teacher. And the young man tells him the following story:

"One day, a friend of mine, also a student, came in with a nice new watch, and I decided I wanted it.

I stole it, I took it out of his pocket.

Shortly after, my friend noticed the his watch was missing and immediately complained to our teacher, who was you.

Then you addressed the class saying, 'This student's watch was stolen during classes today. Whoever stole it, please return it.'

I didn't give it back because I didn't want to.

You closed the door and told us all to stand up and form a circle.

You were going to search our pockets one by one until the watch was found.

However, you told us to close our eyes, because you would only look for his watch if we all had our eyes closed.

We did as instructed.

You went from pocket to pocket, and when you went through my pocket, you found the watch and took it. You kept searching everyone's pockets, and when you were done you said 'open your eyes. We have the watch.'

You didn't tell on me and you never mentioned the episode. You never said who stole the watch either. That day you saved my dignity forever. It was the most shameful day of my life.

But this is also the day I decided not to become a thief, a bad person, etc. You never said anything, nor did you even scold me or take me aside to give me a moral lesson.

I received your message clearly.

Thanks to you, I understood what a real educator needs to do.

Do you remember this episode, professor?

The old professor answered, 'Yes, I remember the situation with the stolen watch, which I was looking for in everyone's pocket. I didn't remember you, because I also closed my eyes while looking.'

This is the essence of teaching:

If to correct you must humiliate; you don't know how to teach "

CALLING ALL SUBMARINERS!

Come join us in San Antonio, TX April 13-16, 2023 for the 3rd Annual Lone Star Subvet Round-Up!

A gathering for all Submariners and their families and celebrating the Submarine Force's 123nd Birthday



Rooms for \$159/night @ The Menger Hotel (requires 2 night stay) Click Here for Room Reservations Room Block closes 7 March, 2022 Camping is available a many nearby campground including numerous military bases

Many Great Door Prizes throughout the weekend!

For more information call 512-639-0035





Any Profits go to the USSVI Charitable Foundation