



THE DECK LOG

USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE

SEPTEMBER 2023



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



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USSVI NATIONAL COMMANDER

William Andrea 561-790-1287 wandrea@bellsouth.net

USSVI NATIONAL SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER

Jon Jaques 615-893-7800 jaques@bellsouth.net

USSVI CENTRAL REGION DIRECTOR

Tom Williams 512-632-9439 texsubvet@yahoo.com

USSVI CENTRAL DISTRICT 4 COMMANDER

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

CENTRAL TEXAS BASE OFFICERS

Base Commander Rick Mitchell	512-639-0035	rmitch2@yahoo.com
Vice-Commander Chuck Trahan	512-801-1133	ct668@yahoo.com
Yeoman Frank Abernathy	512-426-3427	f.abernathy@utexas.edu
Chief of the Boat Bill Scott	512-826-8876	hscottss242@gmail.com
Treasurer Virgil Claycamp	512-632-4852	vclaycamp@yahoo.com

BASE SUPPORT APPOINTMENTS

Chaplain - Bob Steinmann	512-255-5250	bobandgladys@austin.rr.com
Memorial - Gene Hall	512-864-2860	genehall3198@gmail.com
Storekeeper - Virgil Claycamp	512-632-4852	vclaycamp@yahoo.com
Membership - Chuck Malone	512-694-5294	cmalone10@austin.rr.com
Newsletter Editor - Bill Scott	512-826-8876	hscottss242@gmail.com
Webmaster - Rick Mitchell	512-639-0035	rmitch2@yahoo.com
Parades - Tom Sprague	858-755-6071	tmsprague48@gmail.com
Kaps4Kids - Shawn O'Shea	702-682-9170	Soshea77@outlook.com
- Eric Heter	512-731-4139	erik.heter@gmail.com
Holland Club - Don Atkins	512-508-1997	oneoldcrow3134@gmail.com

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 Mi-crosoft Publisher PDF format to the Base Membership. A printed copy is mailed via USPS to those shipmates requesting a mailed copy.

Deck Log Editor

Harold W (Bill) Scott II, STCS (SS) USN Ret.
Holland Club, Life Member USSVI
SS-242, SSN-612, SSN-595, SSN-596
hscottss242@gmail.com

512-826-8876

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

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.



2017 Tom Williams



2021 Rick Mitchell
2021 Bill Scott
2023 Carl Repp



2010, 2014,
2017, 2020



2020 Base
2023 Bill Bellinghausen



2020
Bob Steinmann,
Hubert Jackson



2023 Bill Brinkman



2012, 2013, 2016,
2018, 2019, 2020,
2021, 2022, 2023,

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



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



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



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



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



Sub Vet Store (americommerce.com)



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



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



www.navyleagueaustin.org



www.navyleague.org



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



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://isusa.org/>



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



<https://www.silent-service-challenge-coins.com/>



[Naval History and Heritage Command](http://www.history.navy.mil/)

SILENT RUNNING - SEPTEMBER

"I can assure you that they went down fighting and that their brothers who survived them took a grim toll of our savage enemy to avenge their deaths." Vice Admiral Charles A. Lockwood, USN



USS Bullhead (SS 332)

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



USS Flier (SS 250)

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



USS S-39 (SS 144)

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



USS Harder (SS 257)

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



USS Cochino (SS 345)

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



USS Pompano (SS 181)

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

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





USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE NEWS

BASE COMMANDER'S REPORT



Hello Shipmates,

Sitting here getting ready to head to Tucson for our National Convention tomorrow morning. Looking forward to seeing a couple of you out there along with many old friends from years past. Really looking forward to who the new friends I will have after being out there this year. Always happens that you meet some really neat people out there and end up becoming lifelong friends. I hope all of you take the opportunity to attend a convention in the near future. You won't be sorry you went.

We had a good meeting this month and everything we discussed was sent out on the meeting wrap-up and most of it listed elsewhere in this newsletter so not going to re-hash a lot of it. What I do want to ask you to think about is how our base operates and who does it. We have an E-board with 4 elected candidates and numerous other appointed positions. We also have other opportunities to head up various functions, etc. These positions are designed not to be long term positions but rotate among our members so as not to burn out those who do the job and also to bring in new and fresh ideas. Election season is quickly coming upon us. Please reach out to me or anyone of our current board if you would be willing to run for one of our positions. By the letter of the law all are open this year with exception of Base Commander which is a 2-year term. I will finish my term unless there is someone qualified that steps up and we get the appropriate permissions. I can tell you though that at the end of 2024 my run as Base Commander will be over. I will fully support the base as always, but I need a small break and want to be able to focus more on my role as District Commander and other areas within the organization. It's a fun job, give me a call and let's talk about it or any of the other roles we have. Whether we are talking about horses or submarines you cannot ride any of them indefinitely, they all need rest and repairs.

Our base 2023 base fundraisers are underway now also. They consist of a member donation drive. We will be collecting them at the social on Sept 16th and you can mail a check to Virgil also if you cannot attend the social. Everyone who donates will be entered in a drawing for a prize. The other one is our raffle. Please help spread the word and get your friends, family, co-workers to purchase a ticket or 3 to help support submarine Veterans, local veterans, and local children's causes. Don't look at it as you are selling something but giving someone an opportunity to donate to a very worthy cause. Check out the bottom of the raffle flyer for examples of where this money we raise goes.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at Veteran Memorial Park in Cedar Park on Sept 16th for our social. The base will be providing burgers, hotdogs and all the fixings along with water and chips. Feel free to bring your favorite side, desert, and beverages. We will be inducting our new member David Lewis into the Holland Club also. Thanks to those who have stepped up so far to help make this happen (Jack Collins, Gene Hall, Don Atkins, Chuck Malone and Frank Espinosa) There are opportunities for others also if you want to help out.

Thanks for everything you all do. As always If you need anything at all please don't hesitate to ask.

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



USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MEETING MINUTES

Date: 8/16/2023

Location: VFW Post 8587

Meeting opened at 19:00 by Rick Mitchell, Base Commander.

E-Board was present

Minutes from July Meeting were approved.

Sailing List: 20 Total at VFW

Binnacle List: John Roberts, Chuck Trahan, Don Atkins, Cynthia Whittingslow and Bob Steinman

Prayer: Rick Mitchell led the base in our opening Prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance: Joe Keller

Tolling of the Boats – Aug, Rick Mitchell Reading, Chuck Trahan Tolling

Officer and Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report: Virgil Claycamp

Current Total Funds as of 1 Aug 2023

1 Jul 2023 Balance \$28,418.56

General: \$23,777.83

Memorial: \$4,159.39

Uncleared checks -\$200.00

1 Aug 2023 Balance \$27,937.07

Ships Stores has Base Challenge coins for \$10 each and Rick Mentioned that we'd soon be stocking SubVet Ball caps for sale.

Memorial (Gene Hall): Contractor is now onsite and work is proceeding but likely will not be complete until after Memorial Day 2024.

Kaps 4 Kids (Shawn O'Shea): The next Kaps4Kids is scheduled for 7 Sep 23 at 11:00 at McLane Children's Hospital Scott and White, Temple, TX. Then we're looking at Dell Children's Round Rock on 3 Oct 2023 at 11:00. If you are interested in participating, please contact Shawn O'Shea.

Parade (Tom Sprague): No events currently in the schedule, more to come.

Membership (Chuck Malone): Chuck is out for a medical procedure and the report was submitted via email. 86 Current Members, 50 USSVI National Life, 40 Base Life and 41 Holland Club Members, 1 Associate Member and 75 War Vets.

Birthdays 2023: 8/9 Leonard Snyder, 8/4 Garret Onderdonk IV, 8/12 Garret Onderdonk III, 8/18 Hubert Jackson, 8/27 Virgil Claycamp, 8/21 Jack Bellinoff, 9/5 Bill Bellinghausen, 9/6 Joe Keller, 9/9 Richard Beason, 9/11 Tim Pacl, 9/12 Paul Craven and 9/14 Curt Webber.

USS Drum SS-228 (Eric Heter): The history of the USS Drum, The Drum was a Gato Class Submarine. She was built at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery Maine. Her Keel was laid on 11 Sep 1940 and launched on 12 May 1941 and was commissioned on 1 Nov 1941. Completed 14 War Patrols and received 12 Battle Stars. 14 Ships were sunk for a total of 80,580 Tons.

Unfinished, Ongoing and Old Business

Annual Base Raffle

A motion was presented by Chuck Trahan to proceed with our Annual Base Raffle, Bill Scott seconded and was approved by all present. This raffle will be like the one last year. There will be 4 Cash Card Prizes; one each, \$1000, \$750, \$500 and \$250. Tickets will be \$10 ea or 3 for \$25. The drawing will be on, or about, Veterans Day 2023. Contact Gene Hall to get tickets for sale.

2023 National Convention

August 28 thru Sep 3 at Tucson, AZ. The event hotel is the Hilton El Conquistador with rooms at \$99/night.

In support of the convention the Central Texas Base placed a FULL Page ad in the program guide for \$315.

Currently Chuck Trahan, Chip Pomeroy, Weldon Koenig, Rick Mitchell and Joe Kruppa are registered.

Blood Drive

Frank Espinosa is working on another Blood Drive at VFW Post 8587. This will be on Saturday 7 Oct 2023 from 1200-1600. The Goal is go draw at least 26 pints. To check eligibility to donate send an email to whocandonate@weareblood.org To register to Donate send email to Craig at cwellborn@weareblood.org

NEW Business:

2023 Georgetown Field of Honor

This year will be held at the Hammerlun Center for Leadership and Learning, 507 E University Ave, Georgetown, TX. Parade of Colors on Sunday 5 Nov 2023. Proposed Tolling on 4 Nov 2023. We are a Flag

Sales Affiliate and will be selling flags to place on the field to Honor a Military Member. Flags will be approximately \$45 each. Last year FoH awarded a total of \$27,500 to R.O.C.K., O.P., Veteran and Blue Star Mothers. A motion was placed by Chuck Trahan to provide a \$500 Sponsorship, it was seconded by Joe Keller and approved by those present.

Base Social on Saturday 16 September at Veterans Memorial Park

Will Start at 1200. 2525 W. New Hope Drive, Cedar Park, TX 78613. Bring folding chairs, misc food sides and deserts and drinks of your choice. Base will supply meats and water. This is one of our annual fund raisers and those who donate will be in a drawing for a prize.

Bill Scott mentioned that changes are being made to update the USSVI National Awards Manual.

Round Rock Memorial Day Ceremony

10 Nov 2023 will be in the afternoon. Entertainment throughout the day. Live Music with Vendor areas. More Details to follow. Gary Powers, Jr. will be the guest speaker.

Rick Mitchell indicated the Budget for 2024 is in the process of being written. If you have comments or input for the proposed budget please contact Rick Mitchell of a member of the E-Board. The proposed budget will be up for approval in Oct 2023.

In addition Dues will be collected starting on 1 Oct 2023 and it would be appreciated if all dues could be collected by 1 Dec 2023.

Help Wanted; The base can always use help from our members, ask what you can do. Thank you.

Good of the Order

Shipmate of the Month

Jack Collins is this month's Shipmate of the Month and gave a brief history of his service in Education, the US Navy and Church. Jack is also working on finishing his book and hopes to have it published soon.

Maddie Whitenack was a recipient of the USSVI Scholarship. Congratulations Maddie!

50/50 Raffle – \$43 of \$86 was won by Bill Brinkman.

Next Events – 16 Sep 2023 1200, Base Social at Veterans Memorial Park in Cedar Park.

Next Meeting – 18 Oct 2023 at VFW 8587 with Zoom

Sailing List

Base Members and Visitors:

Local at the VFW Post 8587 (24): Frank Abernathy, Harry Boyer, Bill Brinkman, Virgil Claycamp, Jack Collins, Bryan Eaton, Frank Espinosa, Hubert Jackson, Joe Keller, David Lewis, Jeff Linder, Dale Messing, Rick Mitchell, Garret Onderdonk III, Garret Onderdonk IV, Shawn O'Shea, Bill Scott, Calvin Story, Chuck Trahan and Kenneth Gallman (Kenneth has moved to Central Texas and has joined the CTB).

Meeting Adjourned by Rick Mitchell, 2023 hours

Minutes submitted by Frank Abernathy, Yeoman, 23 Aug 2023

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BASE TREASURER'S REPORT
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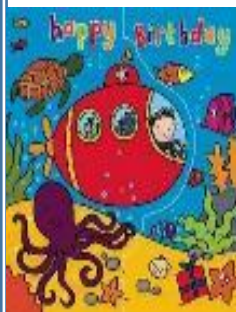
15 July 2023

Financial Report for Period Ending 6/30/2023

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include: Beginning Balance - 7/1/2023 (\$28,418.56), RBFCU Checking (General Fund) (\$23,777.83), RBFCU Savings (Memorial Fund) (\$4,159.39), Uncleared Checks (-\$200), Ending Balance - 8/1/2023 (\$27,737.22).

Submitted: Virgil Claycamp, Treasurer

SEPTEMBER 2023



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

CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MEMBERSHIP

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

Members listed in Central Texas Database	86
Regular Annual Members	25
National Life Members	50
Base Life Members	41
Holland Club Members	42
Associate Members	1
Dual Members	3
Prospective Members:	0
War Veterans	75
Members pending:	0
Submitted: Chuck Malone, Membership	

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.

John Roberts, Chuck Trahan, Don Atkins, Cynthia Whittingslow, Bob Steinmann, Chuck Malone, Other Shipmates not CTB members, and others?

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.

16 September 2023, Kap(ss)4Kid(ss), , Details TBD

16 September 2023, 1200 hours, Quarterly Social, Central Texas Base, Veteran's memorial Park, 2525 W New Hope Dr, Cedar Park, TX 78613

7 October 2023, 1200-1600, We Are Blood Drive, VFW Post #8587, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, .

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

4-12 November 2023, 7th Annual Field of Honor, GISD Hammerlin Center, 507 E University (Hwy29), Georgetown, TX. CTB Tolling of the Boats 11/4/23. Ed. - See flyer at the back of the newsletter.

6 November 2023, 11th Annual Snowden Cup Golf Tournament, Georgetown Country Clu, Georgetown, TX. Ed. - See flyer at the back of the newsletter.

15 November 2023, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, Zoom and VFW Post #8587, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting.

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KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS)

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Next visit is scheduled for September 7 at 11 am at Baylor, Scott, White McLane's Children's Medical Center Temple TX. We are restricted to 5 volunteers per visit. Please contact me to get signed up for a visit, first come first serve. Sharing our experiences with the children is priceless.

"No one stands so tall as when they stoop to help a child" - Abraham Lincoln

Sincerely, Shawn O'Shea
Chairman K4K CTB

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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The Lord Created a Submariner

When the good Lord created a Submariner, it was almost 2300 on the sixth day. An angel appeared and said, "You're having a lot of trouble with this one. What's wrong with the standard model?"

And the Lord replied, "Have you seen the specs on this order? It has to be able to think independently, yet be able to take orders; have the qualities of both a scientific mind and a compassionate heart; be able to mentor juniors and learn from seniors; run on black coffee; handle emergencies without a Damage Control Manual, respond competently to critical incidents, decipher cryptographic codes, understand pneumatics, hydraulics and sonar, have the patience of a saint and six pairs of hands, not to mention the strength of three its size."

The angel shook its head slowly and said, "Six pairs of hands - - No way!"

And the Lord answered, "Don't worry, we'll make other Submariners to help. Besides it's not the hands which are causing the problem. It's the heart. It must swell with pride when a Shipmate earns his Silver Dolphins - which above all else signifies the crew members trust it with their lives, sustain the incredible hardship of life at sea in a steel tube, beat on soundly when it's too tired to do so, and be strong enough to continue to carry on when it's given all it had."

"Lord," said the angel touching the Lord's sleeve gently, "Stop! It's almost midnight!"

"I can't," said the Lord. "I'm so close to creating something unique. Already I have one whose hands blend knowledge with skill to perform the most intricate procedures, yet are strong enough to patch a ruptured sea-water pipe; whose ears can discern the sonar sounds of a myriad of ocean life, yet detect the slightest shift in ventilation; whose mind can practice the science of nuclear submarining, yet not lose sight of the art of teamwork; and whose eyes can peer through a periscope to identify a hull down ship, yet search within to embrace and personify honor, courage and commitment."

The angel circled the model of the Submariner very slowly. "It's too serious," the angel sighed.

"But tough," said the Lord excitedly. "You cannot imagine what this Submariner can do or endure."

"Can it feel?" asked the angel.

"Can it feel! It loves Ship, Shipmates and Country like no other!"

Finally the angel bent over and ran a finger across the Submariner's cheek. "There's a leak," pronounced the angel. "I told you you're trying to put too much into this model."

"That's not a leak," said the Lord. "It's a tear."

"What's it for?" asked the angel.

"It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, frustration and pride!"

"You're a genius!" exclaimed the angel.

The Lord looked pleased and replied, "I didn't put it there."

Filled with pride, the Lord continued, "Great things are planned for this Submariner. It will be one of many and together they will lead a legacy of excellence like none has known before."

And with that the Lord rested. It was the seventh day.

CAPT Jane F. Vieira, Chaplain Corps, United States Navy



National All Hands Bulletin

From the Desk of National Commander Bill Andrea

United States Submarine Veterans Inc. info@ussvi.org via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com, 8-4-2023

Shipmates,

The following Bulletin briefly describes a program initiated by The Naval Submarine League to support our active Submarine Force by creating "Sub Clubs", with the goal of having a "Sub Club" for every active submarine. For those that will be attending the National Convention in Tucson, Tim Oliver, the NSL Executive Director and a USSVI Holland Club member, will be at the Convention if you want to talk with him in person. There is also a link at the end of this bulletin for more information.

SUB CLUBS OFFER SUPPORT TO A NEW GENERATION OF SUBMARINERS

An important part of the mission of the [Naval Submarine League](#) (NSL) is to encourage support for every submarine through Sub Clubs. Several USSVI bases are working with the NSL on this initiative. Since many Navy League councils have "adopted" submarines, we also encourage them to collaborate with Sub Clubs.

A Sub Club presents a great opportunity to connect with this new generation of submariners by providing tangible support to the men and women of today's Submarine Force. Let these crews know that the American public appreciates what they are doing for our country by starting or joining a Sub Club!

While there are about 70 U.S. submarines in service, only 12 Sub Clubs or associations have been established to support 17 of our submarines. The NSL would like each boat to have the support of a dedicated Sub Club. To help with this endeavor, the NSL provides guidance and information to those interested in being a part of these associations that build morale among the crew and their families and help establish community relationships and educate the American public.

What exactly is a Sub Club? A Sub Club is an organization formed to offer support to a specific boat, her crew, and their families. The organization varies but usually includes representatives and/or committees that perform various roles to build the relationship with the sub and its crew. Sub Clubs are typically established in a location that has a connection with the submarine's namesake city, state, honored American, or historical submarine. The Naval Submarine League works to identify an NSL member who is local to the homeport of the submarine and can volunteer as a liaison to the boat.

Sub Club membership generally consists of volunteers - interested civilians, parents of the crew's families, or organizations that would like to be involved in supporting the sub. Anyone can participate! This adopting community develops a meaningful connection to this unique part of our military that is personal, fun, and rewarding.

The ssn777club.org is a great example of a Sub Club that supports multiple boats: USS North Carolina (SSN 777), USS Asheville (SSN 758), and the USS Charlotte (SSN 766). This club does a fantastic job of keeping in touch with its supporters through a newsletter ssn777club.org/newsletters.

The ussmontanacommittee.us is an example of a very motivated Commissioning Committee that recently transitioned to a Sub Club and will continue to provide ongoing support to the USS Montana (SSN 794).

To learn more about joining an existing Sub Club or for more information about how to form a Sub Club, please contact outreach@navalsubleague.org.

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USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2023-005

NEWS-01: Eternal Patrol notice

Submitted by: William C. Andrea on 8/22/2023

Shipmates,

Sadly, Shipmate Robert J. (Bob) Bissonnette departed on Eternal Patrol Aug 18, 2023. Bob was the Base Commander of San Diego Base and a past District Commander and Western Region Director. Bob was the "Unofficial Photographer" at all our Conventions and a devoted USSVI Member since 2000.

Bob was 59 years old and is survived by his wife Connie and their children. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Bill Andrea
National Commander

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USSV Charitable Foundation - Tropical Storm Hilary

From the Desk of USSV Charitable Foundation President. Kenneth Earls

United Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation Inc. info@ussvi.org

Shipmates,

The USSV Charitable Foundation sends this message of hope for all USSVI bases and members that may be impacted by Tropical Storm Hilary, Hopefully, you will all remain safe and are able to get back on your feet after this disaster.

There are reports of extensive flooding and landslides in the southern California area. We advise bases and members in that area to remain cautious and follow local guidelines. I want to assure you that your well-being is our top priority. If any of our members find themselves in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to your bases, regional leaders, or our national office. We are here to support you in any way we can, whether it's providing resources, connecting you with fellow members, providing financial support, or lending a helping hand. Remember you aren't in this alone, reach out to us if we can help in any way.

We stand with our USSVI members in the great state of California and hope for a speedy recovery from the storm.

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

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National All Hands Bulletin

United States Submarine Veterans Inc. [<info@ussvi.org>](mailto:info@ussvi.org) 8-30-2023

USSVI National Storekeeper
2063 Main Street, PMB 293
Oakley, CA 94561
925-679-1744
nsk.ussvi@yahoo.com
www.ussvinationalstorekeeper.com

Attention Base Commanders and Base Storekeepers

The USSVI National Storekeeper is now taking orders for the 2024 calendars.

Deliveries will commence after the Tucson USSVI National Convention.

2024 United States Submarine Veterans Calendar

GUPPY CONVERSION SUBMARINES

Spanning the years between World War II and the advent of nuclear power, these aging wartime workhorses, converted for greater speed and endurance, represented the vanguard of our undersea fleet.

Number	Cost each	lbs	Shipping
1-2	13.75	1	3.92
3-6	11.00	2	4.67
7-8	9.50	3	5.42
9-11	9.50	4	6.17
12-14	9.50	5	6.92
15-17	9.50	6	7.67
18-20	9.50	7	8.42
21-23	9.50	8	9.17
24-26	9.50	9	9.92
27-29	9.50	10	10.67
30-32	8.50	11	11.42
33-35	8.50	12	12.17
36-37	8.50	13	12.92
38-40	8.50	14	13.67
41-42	8.50	15	14.42
43-45	8.50	16	15.17
46-49	8.50	17	15.92
50-54	8.00	19	16.67
55-58	8.00	20	17.42
59-60	8.00	21	18.17
61-99	7.50	no charge	1 address
100-149	6.75	no charge	1 address
150 +	6.00	no charge	1 address



U.S. Naval Undersea Museum

7/24/2023



USS Columbus (SSN 762) performs an emergency blow off the coast of Oahu, Hawaii, during a training drill, June 1998.

This photo of USS Columbus is one of the most widely circulated images of a submarine emergency blow. Columbus, who was commissioned 7/24/1993 in 1993, is celebrating 30 years of service today!

An emergency (EMBT) blow rapidly forces high-pressure air into a submarine's main ballast tanks, making the submarine so positively buoyant that it shoots to the surface in seconds. By design, the EMBT system operates independently of a submarine's other operating systems. This preserves a submarine's ability to surface in an emergency even if the ship loses propulsion.



US nuclear submarine weak spot in bubble trail: Chinese scientists

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3230476/us-nuclear-submarine-weak-spot-bubble-trail-chinese-scientists>

- Extremely low frequency electromagnetic signal produced by speeding subs can be picked up by available devices, researchers say



- The almost imperceptible bubbles could give away the position of most advanced submarines, but more research is needed

Researchers in China say the laws of physics could make it possible to detect nuclear-powered submarines with existing technologies. Photo: US Navy

A study published in one of China's most respected peer-reviewed journals suggests that advanced submarines could be detected by existing technology, a development that would threaten US dominance of the oceans.

The US is widely believed to operate some of the most difficult to detect submarines, with sophisticated acoustic and vibration reduction systems to blend them into the background noises of the ocean.

Carl Schuster, a retired US Navy captain and former director of operations at the Pacific Command's Joint Intelligence Centre in Hawaii, told CNN in April that "submarines are one area where the United States retains unchallenged superiority over China".

But the study, by researchers from the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, found an ultra-sensitive magnetic detector could pick up traces of the most advanced submarine from long distances away.

The team, led by Zou Shengnan, used computer modelling to determine whether it was possible to detect the almost imperceptible bubbles produced by a nuclear-powered submarine cruising at high speed.

The result "provides a new solution for the detection and tracking of submarines", according to the paper published on August 1 by the Chinese Journal of Ship Research.

The journal is run by the China Ship Scientific Research Centre, which has a long and respected history of cutting-edge developments in ship and ocean engineering.

The researchers calculated that the extremely low frequency (ELF) signal produced by a submarine's bubbles could be stronger than the sensitivities of advanced magnetic anomaly detectors by three to six orders of magnitude.

"The magnitudes of the induced electric field and magnetic field are ... well within the detection range of some top-notch sensors," the paper said.

The bubbles are an inevitable consequence of the submarine's cruising speed, which causes the water flowing around the hull to move faster as its kinetic energy increases and its potential energy – expressed as pressure – decreases.

This is because the total energy of a given system must remain constant. In the case of a fluid in motion, the sum of the kinetic energy – caused by the motion of the fluid – and the potential energy will not alter, but the balance of the two forces will shift.

When the pressure decreases sufficiently, small bubbles form on the surface of the hull as some of the water vaporises. This cavitation process is most likely to occur on areas with a sharp curvature or rough surface, which can create regions of low pressure.

As the water continues to flow around the hull, the bubbles grow bigger and move away from the surface, where the higher pressure – such as near the trailing edge of the hull – causes them to collapse violently.

This process causes turbulence and can produce an electromagnetic signature, in a phenomenon known as the magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) effect. The faster the turbulence, the stronger the MHD voltage will be.

According to the computer modelling results, “significant induced electric field signals can be observed around the bow, stern, and rear of the hull”, the paper said.

The electromagnetic emissions produced by the cavitation bubbles fluctuate over time, generating a distinct signal in the extremely low frequency range, from 49.94 Hz to 34.19 Hz, according to the researchers.

Though faint, ELF signals can travel great distances, thanks to their ability to penetrate the water and reach the ionosphere, where they are reflected back to the Earth’s surface.

This quality is already exploited for submarine communication. China, for instance, has built the world’s largest antenna to transmit ELF signals to its submarine fleet hidden in deep waters.

According to Zou and her team, their findings can “also provide a reference for the selection of electromagnetic communication frequencies for high-speed submarines”.

Traditional electromagnetic detection technologies locate and track the disturbance in the Earth’s magnetic field created by the movement through the water of a submarine, which is typically made of a ferromagnetic material like steel.

By analysing the strength and direction of the electromagnetic field, it is possible to determine the location and movement of the submarine. But traditional detection technologies are increasingly limited by the countermeasures deployed by ship designers.

These include the use of low-magnetic or non-metallic materials in the design of the submarine shell, as well as other measures to continuously reduce the electromagnetic characteristics of the vessels.

There is an urgent need for research into a new type of signal source, according to Zuo and her team, but they cautioned that there are several practical challenges to detecting the electromagnetic signals produced by submarine cavitation.

These include the disappearance of the signal when the submarine slows down or stops, as well as interference from other sources – such as naturally occurring electromagnetic noise or human-made signals.

The flow of water around a submarine can also be highly turbulent and unsteady, which can affect the formation and evolution of cavitation bubbles and the resulting electromagnetic signals.

The researchers said further research is need to better understand the complex physics behind the flow-electromagnetic coupling, to develop more accurate and reliable models for predicting these induced electromagnetic submarine signatures.

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The British navy is teaming up with the US to build a new 'Dreadnought' for a totally different battle at sea

[The British navy is teaming up with the US to build a new 'Dreadnought' for a totally different battle at sea \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com)

Story by insider@insider.com (Benjamin Brimelow)

- The British Royal Navy is building a new class of nuclear-powered ballistic-missile submarines.
- The British subs will have the same missile compartment as the US Navy's new missile subs.
- The name of the new subs recalls the first Dreadnought, a battleship that redefined naval warfare.

In 1906 the British Royal Navy commissioned [HMS Dreadnought](#), a battleship that changed how surface warships were designed and sparked a naval arms race.

Armed with five turrets bearing twin 12-inch guns and featuring new technologies like steam turbines and electronic fire-control equipment, HMS Dreadnought became the standard on which future battleships were based and separated the "pre-dreadnought" and "dreadnought" eras.

Long after [the battleship's reign came to an end](#), the name Dreadnought is still a defining one. The Royal Navy's [first nuclear-powered submarine](#), in service from 1963 to 1980, was also called HMS Dreadnought.

Now, more than 100 years after the first Dreadnought, another is in the works. This one, the first of a [new class](#) of nuclear-powered ballistic-missile submarines, will again usher in a new era of warship for Britain.

At-sea deterrent



The Royal Navy submarine HMS Dreadnought in April 1963. SSPL/Getty Images© SSPL/Getty Images

Britain's new class of nuclear-powered ballistic-missile submarines, designated as SSBNs, will fill a looming gap in the country's nuclear deterrent.

Whereas other nuclear-armed countries employ a triad of delivery systems — ground-launched, air-launched, and sea-launched — to ensure their nuclear capability will survive an attack and thus guarantee a credible nuclear deterrent, Britain has relied solely on submarine-launched ballistic missiles since 1998, when it retired its air-dropped nuclear gravity bombs.

The Royal Navy has had at least one SSBN on patrol as part of Operation Relentless, Britain's [continuous at sea deterrent](#), since 1969, making it the country's longest ongoing military operation. The current British SSBN force is made up of four [Vanguard-class](#) subs, which were built between 1986 and 1998.

The strain of decades of near-constant deployments has taken a toll on the Vanguards. Originally meant to serve for 25 years, the subs have had their service lives extended three times. Their overall lifespan is now expected to be 37 to 38 years.



Vanguard-class submarine HMS Victorious near Faslane in April 2013. UK Ministry of Defense© UK Ministry of Defense

In 2007, the British Parliament approved a plan for four new SSBNs to replace the Vanguards. After years of design work, construction on the first boat, HMS Dreadnought, began in 2016.

To ensure successful and efficient construction and delivery of the new class, the Ministry of Defense created

the [Submarine Delivery Agency](#) in 2017 to serve as an executive agency responsible for procurement, in-service support, and decommissioning of all Royal Navy nuclear submarines.

A year later, the two companies contracted to build the Dreadnought, BAE Systems and Rolls Royce, formed the "Dreadnought Alliance," a commercial arrangement that ensures constant communication and collaboration between the companies, including on things like a common cost model, mutually agreed scheduling and breakdown of work, and reporting procedures.

The Dreadnought class



A rendering from 2016 of the ballistic-missile sub meant to replace the Vanguard class. British Royal Navy© British Royal Navy

At about 500 feet long and with a displacement of 17,200 tons, the Dreadnoughts will be the largest submarines ever built by the UK. Each boat will have a lifespan of at least 30 years.

Each Dreadnought will be powered by the PWR3, a new nuclear reactor built by Rolls-Royce. They will also have [X-form rudders](#) and a new turbo-electric drive that powers an electric motor that drives an improved [pump-jet propulsor](#), likely making them quieter than their Vanguard-class predecessors.

Along with the quieting features of their propulsion systems, the Dreadnoughts will have an angular design meant to deflect active sonar waves, making them stealthier. Concept imagery [indicates](#) that the Dreadnoughts will also be coated with anechoic tiles, which are designed to absorb incoming active sonar waves and reduce noise from the sub that could be picked up by passive sonar.

The Royal Navy also [plans to equip](#) its Dreadnought subs with optronic masts — a [high-tech replacement for the traditional periscope](#) that is already in use on its Astute-class submarines.



A Trident II D-5 missile is launched from a US Navy Ohio-class sub during a test. Getty Images© Getty Images

The Dreadnoughts will have four 21-inch torpedo tubes and carry [Spearfish heavyweight torpedoes](#). Their main armament, however, will be 12 [Trident II D5](#) ballistic missiles — four fewer than on the Vanguard-class subs — carrying Mk4/ A "Holbrook" nuclear warheads.

The missiles will be stored and launched from the Common Missile Compartment. The CMC is a joint US-UK defense project begun in 2008 to create a common launch system for all future American and British SSBNs. Each CMC contains four missile silos. Dreadnoughts will be equipped with three CMCs, while the US Navy's [Columbia-class boats](#) will have four.

Apart from the CMC project, the UK is also involved in the US Navy's Trident II D5 service-life extension program, which aims to stretch the missile's service life as far as the early 2060s. The British government previously indicated that its Tridents will need to be replaced in the 2040s.

The future fleet



Royal Navy attack sub HMS Astute after its launch at a shipyard in Barrow-in-Furness in June 2007. Christopher Furlong/Getty Images© Christopher Furlong/Getty Images

Four Dreadnought-class subs will be built: Dreadnought, Valiant, Warspite, and King George VI. Construction of Valiant started in 2019 and work on Warspite [began](#) in February.

In May 2022, the Ministry of Defense announced that Dreadnought had entered Delivery Phase 3, during which the sub will eventually leave the BAE shipyard in Barrow-in-Furness for sea trials, yielding lessons that [will be applied](#) to construction of other Dreadnought-class subs. The Royal Navy plans to commission HMS Dreadnought sometime in the early 2030s.

In addition to being the largest British subs ever, the Dreadnought class will be one of the most expensive defense projects in British history.

Building the four subs is expected to cost a little over \$39.5 billion, a total that includes inflation over the 35-year life of the program. The British government has also set up a contingency fund of about \$12.75 billion, money that can be "[re-profiled](#)" to keep the program on track. The MoD has already accessed about 20% of the fund.

While British lawmakers have [expressed concern](#) that the Ministry of Defense would view the contingency fund as "a blank cheque, freeing it from the need to control costs," the ministry said in its 2022 update to Parliament, [published in March](#), that the program was still on schedule and within its cost estimate.



1945

‘Sir, We Have An Emergency’: A ‘Heavily Armed’ Russian Nuclear Submarine Was Massively Damaged

Story by Maya Carlin •8/23/23

[‘Sir, We Have An Emergency’: A ‘Heavily Armed’ Russian Nuclear Submarine Was Massively Damaged \(msn.com\)](#)



Akula-Class Submarine. Image Credit: Computer Generated Image, Screenshot.© Provided by 1945

On Nov. 8, 2008, the [K-152 Nerpa](#), a Russian nuclear-powered attack submarine, cruised the depths of the Sea of Japan on sea trials to determine her readiness state. Construction was completed that year, and the submarine was running tests with a large complement of civilian contractors and engineers aboard to monitor the reactor's state.

Tragically, many would lose their lives in one of the worst submarine disasters in Russian history.

Introducing the Nerpa

K-152 is an Akula-class boat, measuring in at over 350 feet long. The [Akula class](#) was one of the last submarines developed by the Soviet Union before its dissolution. Its first deployment in 1986 was an important event — Western analysts thought the Soviets were at least 10 years away from producing anything like the Akula. These [attack boats](#) feature a double hull design. In the inner hull is the pressure vessel, which keeps out the crushing pressure of water at depth. The outer hull is not structural. This so-called light hull gives designers much more flexibility in shape and storage.

While not much information is known about specific submarines and their operating capabilities due to the secretive nature of naval services, it is estimated that these boats can reach depths of 2,000 feet and travel at speeds in excess of 40 knots underwater. Being [attack submarines](#), the boats come heavily armed, with eight torpedo tubes capable of carrying both torpedoes and missiles. A unique bulge on top of the rudder fin houses a highly sensitive towed sonar array to assist in locating enemy ships and submarines.



The Incident

Fire on any ship is devastating, and submarines are no exception. Firefighting techniques have evolved, and most military ships now use a type of gas known as halon to swiftly smother fires. This gas displaces oxygen, starving fire of a critical component while also helping prevent the chemical reaction of burning.

At 8:30 p.m. on Nov. 8, the two forward compartments of the [Nerpa](#) were sealed and flooded with firefighting gas. Tragically, 20 individuals perished, 17 of them civilians, and a further 41 were injured.

The cause of the disaster was not immediately clear. The *Nerpa* was fitted with a new firefighting system that could automatically release the gas should it detect an increase in temperature or smoke.

Some believed this system had malfunctioned and released the gas by mistake. An [investigation](#) by the Russian Navy sought to lay the blame on a sailor who, it was claimed, became bored and activated a fire suppression terminal.

He then allegedly increased the temperature reading far above the safe limit and granted permission to the system to release its halon. But the sailor in question was highly knowledgeable and professional.

He was later acquitted in two trials, and the cause of the accident remains a mystery today.

[Maya Carlin](#), a Senior Editor for 19FortyFive, is an analyst with the Center for Security Policy and a former Anna Sobol Levy Fellow at IDC Herzliya in Israel. She has by-lines in many publications, including The National Interest, Jerusalem Post, and Times of Israel. You can follow her on Twitter: [@MayaCarlin](#).

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US Pentagon changes supplier of Virginia-class submarine propulsors

Story by John Hill , 8/24/23

[US Pentagon changes supplier of Virginia-class submarine propulsors \(msn.com\)](#)

The Virginia-class attack submarine USS Minnesota (SSN 783) arrives at its new homeport at Submarine Base New London. Minnesota is the tenth Virginia-class attack submarine and was commissioned in Norfolk in September. A new supplier has been selected in a recent DoD contract. Credit: DVIDS. © Provided by GlobalData

The US Navy has granted the Florida-based systems supplier Goodrich Corporation a \$20.7m contract to exercise options for manufacturing *Virginia*-class submarine propulsors.

The navy will use FY23 shipbuilding and conversion funds in the amount of \$13.8m and FY23 other procurement funds in the amount of \$6.9m to pay Goodrich for its services. With this modification, the contract will have a value of \$43.7m.

While the contract appears to be a routine task to develop the nuclear-powered systems, it marks a curious change of supplier.

Change of supplier

Until now, BAE Systems has been the original manufacturer of *Virginia*-class propulsors. The Naval Sea Systems Command initially contracted the firm to [produce propulsors and payload tubes in 2012](#) under the '*Virginia*-class Propulsor Program'.

[According to BAE](#), it had manufactured propulsors for the navy since 1989, which significantly contributed to the stealth and effectiveness of a submarine.

"Initially delivering this key technology for the *Seawolf*-class, we continue to successfully manufacture propulsors for *Virginia*-class subs as well. BAE's propulsor improved the propeller's efficiency and help lower its sonar signature."

The original supplier claims it currently produces a total of 37 payload tubes for the latest *Virginia* submarines. The navy is adding significant capability to Block V vessels by increasing the firepower and payload capacity with the Virginia Payload Module (VPM). VPM extends the length of Block V submarines over previous versions by adding a mid-body section to create more payload space.

However, the navy has turned to Goodrich for its system expertise.

Incoming changes to submarine propulsion design

In June 2023, General Atomics announced it would perform propulsion system design, to provide modeling, technical evaluation, and analysis supporting the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency's [Advanced Propulsor, Experimental \(APEX\) programme](#).

The APEX programme develops and demonstrates a new generation of propulsion technology designs to power submarines and other undersea vehicles. APEX will focus on "efficiency, signature, mechanical design and limits and operational considerations."

Meanwhile, BAE's original pump-jet propulsion design for *Virginia* submarines had differed from the conventional bladed propeller. However, with new designs beginning to be tested by new contractors such as General Atomics, and now Goodrich, the US Navy is widening its focus on innovation elsewhere in the defence industrial base.

US Pentagon changes supplier of Virginia-class submarine propulsors was originally created and published by [Naval Technology](#), a GlobalData owned brand.

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This Month in History

(Information source is fresh, so I'm starting to include this info as I had done before I lost access.)

<https://www.history.navy.mil/today-in-history/september-1.html>

09/01/1925 - Cmdr. John Rodgers and a crew of four in a PN-9 aircraft run out of fuel on the first San Francisco to Hawaii flight. Landing at sea, they rig a sail and set sail for Hawaii. On Sept. 10, they are rescued by the submarine USS R-4, 10 miles from Kauai, then Territory of Hawaii.

09/02/1943 - USS Finback (SS 230) rescues Lt. j.g. George H.W. Bush, who is shot down while attacking Chi Chi Jima. During this time, Lt. j.g. Bush serves with Torpedo Squadron Fifty One (VT 51) based on board USS San Jacinto (CVL 30). Lt. j.g. Bush later becomes the 41st President of the United States.

09/04/1941 - The German submarine U-652 attacks the destroyer USS Greer (DD 145), which is tracking the submarine southeast of Iceland. Though the destroyer is not damaged in the attack, USS Greer's depth charges damage U-652. The attack leads President Franklin D. Roosevelt to issue his shoot-on-sight order, directing the Navy to attack any ship threatening U.S. shipping or foreign shipping under escort.

09/06/1997 - USS Louisiana (SSBN 743) is commissioned at its homeport of Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga. The boat is the last of the Navys 18 Ohio-class nuclear-powered fleet ballistic missile submarines.

09/07/2013 - USS Minnesota (SSN 783) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk is the 10th of the Virginia-class submarines and the third Navy vessel to be named after the state of Minnesota.

09/08/1944 - On a daring night attack, USS Spadefish (SS 411) attacks a Japanese convoy off Sakishima Gunto and sinks four Japanese vessels.

09/09/1944 - USS Bang (SS 385) attacks a Japanese convoy 3905, en route from Tokyo Bay to Chichi Jima, and sinks transport Tokiwasan Maru, and freighter Shoryu Maru.

09/09/1989 - USS Pennsylvania (SSBN 735) is commissioned at New London, Conn. The fourth Navy vessel to be named after the Keystone State, the Ohio-class nuclear-powered.

09/09/2006 - USS Texas (SSN 775) is commissioned at Newport News, Va. The second Virginia-class attack submarine is the first named for the Lone Star State. Previous ships named Texas have included two battleships and a cruiser.

09/10/1944 - Submarine USS Sunfish (SS 281) torpedoes and sinks Japanese merchant tanker, Chihaya Maru, east of Quelpart Island.

09/11/1942 - Pharmacists Mate First Class Wheeler B. Lipes performs an emergency appendectomy on Seaman 1st Class Darrell D. Rector on board USS Seadragon (SS 194) on patrol in the South China Sea.

09/11/1944 - USS Albacore (SS 218) torpedoes and sinks the Japanese auxiliary submarine chaser (Cha 165) off Kyushu, Japan, while USS Finback (SS 230) sinks Japanese army cargo ship, Hassho Maru, and merchant cargo ship, No. 2, Hakuun Maru, north of Chichi Jima. Also on this date, USS Pargo (SS 264) sinks Japanese auxiliary netlayer, Hinoki Maru, in Java Sea.

09/11/1982 - USS Michigan (SSGN 727) is commissioned at Groton, Conn. The second Ohio-class nuclear-powered guided missile submarine, it is the third Navy vessel to honor the State of Michigan.

09/12/1944 - USS Growler (SS 215) torpedoes and sinks the Japanese destroyer Shikinami 240 miles south of Hong Kong, and escort vessel Hirado 250 miles east of Hainan Island.

09/12/1987 - USS Key West (SSN 722) is commissioned at her homeport of Naval Station Norfolk, Va. Following the ceremony, the 35th Los Angeles-class attack submarine made a trip down to its name-sake city at Key West, Fla. The boat is the third US Navy vessel to be named after the nation's southern-most city.

09/13/1996 - USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk. The 62nd and last of the Los Angeles-class attack submarines, USS Cheyenne is the third to be named after Wyomings capital city.

09/13/2008 - Hurricane Ike hits Galveston and Houston, Texas. At Galvestons Seawolf Park, a maritime museum, the museum ship USS Stewart (DE 238) and museum submarine USS Cavalla (SS 244), suffer damage as they are thrown out of the water onto land. Both vessels are restored to the prior locations and undergo renovations.

09/15/1944 - USS Pampanito (SS 383) and USS Sealion (SS 315) rescue 73 British and 54 Australian POWs who survive the loss of Japanese freighter, Rakuyo Maru, after she is sunk by Sealion on Sept. 12, about 300 miles west of Cape Bojeador, Luzon. There had been 1,300 men on board Rakuyo Maru when she is torpedoed.

09/16/1944 - USS Barb (SS 220) sinks the Japanese 11,700-ton tanker, Azusa, and the 20,000-ton escort carrier, Unyo, 200 miles southeast of Hong Kong. Additionally, while off Yokosuka, Japan, USS Sea Devil (SS 400) sinks the Japanese submarine I-364.

09/16/1958 - USS Grayback (SSG 574) fires the first operational launch of a Regulus II surface-to- surface guided missile, while off the coast of California.

09/16/1994 - USS Charlotte (SSN 766) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk. The 16th of the Los Angeles-class(improved) attack submarines, the boat is the fourth Navy ship to be named for the North Carolina city.

09/19/1944 - USS Shad (SS 235) torpedoes and sinks Japanese coast defense ship, Ioshima. (ex-Chinese cruiser, Ning Hai) 85 miles off Hachij, Jima.

09/20/1943 - USS S-28 (SS 133) sinks Japanese gunboat No. 2 Katsura Maru, 165 miles southwest of Paramushir, Kuril Islands.

09/21/1944 - USS Haddo (SS 255) torpedoes and sinks the Japanese survey ship, Katsuriki, off Manila, Philippines.

09/21/2017 - 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.

09/22/1959 - USS Patrick Henry (SSBN 599) is launched. In 1982, her ballistic missile tubes are disabled, and she is reclassified as an attack submarine.

09/24/1943 - USS Cabrilla (SS 288) attacks three Japanese ships, a carrier, escort carrier and destroyer, northwest of Chichi Jima.

09/25/1925 - USS S-51 sinks after being rammed by SS City of Rome off Block Island, R.I., killing 33 of her crew.

09/25/1944 - USS Searaven (SS 196) is attacked by a Japanese small craft off southwest tip of Etorofu, Kurils. USS Barbel (SS 316) sinks Japanese merchant cargo ship, Bushu Maru, off Togara Gunto.

09/25/1944 - USS Guardfish (SS 217) sinks Japanese merchant cargo ship, No.2, Miyakawa Maru, in the Yellow Sea off Chinnampo.

09/25/1944 - USS Thresher (SS 200) sinks Japanese merchant cargo ship, Nissei Maru, in the Yellow Sea.

09/25/1982 - USS Houston (SSN 713) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk. For two months in 1989, the boat participated in the filming of The Hunt for Red October off the coasts of Washington and California.

09/26/1944 - USS Pargo (SS 264) sinks the Japanese minelayer, Aotaka, off Borneo. Also on this date, USS McCoy Reynolds (DE 440) sinks Japanese submarine I-175 northeast of Palau.

09/27/1944 - USS Apogon (SS-308) sinks the Japanese cargo ship Hachirogata Maru in the Sea of Okhotsk off Shimushir Island. Also on this date, USS Plaice (SS-390) sinks Japanese Coast Defense Vessel No.10, 100 miles north-northwest of Amami-O-Shima.

09/27/1986 - USS Chicago (SSN 721) is commissioned at Norfolk, VA. The Los Angeles-class nuclear attack submarine is the fourth U.S. Navy ship to be named after the Windy City of Illinois, and is ideally suited for covert surveillance, intelligence gathering and special forces missions.

09/28/1964 - The first deployment of a Polaris A-3 missile takes place on board USS Daniel Webster (SSBN 626) from Charleston, S.C.

09/28/1991 - USS Asheville (SSN 758) is commissioned during a ceremony at Newport News, Va. The Los Angeles-class nuclear-powered submarine is the fourth ship in the Navy to be named after the city in North Carolina, and is ideally suited for covert surveillance, intelligence gathering and special forces missions.

09/29/1944 - USS Narwhal (SS 167) evacuates 81 allied prisoners of war from Lanboyan Point, Sindangan Bay, Mindanao, Philippines. They had survived the Sept. 7 sinking of Japanese POW transport Shinyo Maru.

09/30/1943 - USS Bowfin (SS 287) delivers supplies and evacuates people from Siquijor Island, Philippines and sinks Japanese cargo ship, Mitake Maru.

09/30/1943 - USS Harder (SS 257) sinks Japanese auxiliary submarine chaser No.3 Shosei Maru.

09/30/1943 - USS Pogy (SS 266) sinks Japanese army transport, Maebashi Maru, 300 miles east of Palau.

09/30/1944 - USS Nautilus (SS 168) lands 95 tons of supplies, 70 drums of gasoline, and four drums of oil at designated spot on Panay, Philippine Islands and embarks 47 evacuees (seven servicemen, 10 women, five civilian males, and 25 children).

09/30/1954 - The world's first nuclear-powered submarine, USS Nautilus (SSN 571), is commissioned at Groton, Conn. On Aug. 3, 1958, she is the first U.S. vessel to transit across the geographic North Pole. Nautilus now serves as the historic ship at the Submarine Force Museum at Groton.

09/30/1981 - USS La Jolla (SSN 701) is commissioned at Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton, Conn., before transferring to its new homeport of Naval Submarine Base Point Loma in San Diego, Calif. The Los Angeles-class attack submarine is ideally suited for covert surveillance, intelligence gathering and Special Forces missions.



ConnecticutHistory.org

8/3/1958



In 1958, the USS Nautilus became the first ship to pass underneath the North Pole. Constructed in Groton by the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics, the journey took 1,850 miles from where they launched in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Learn more: <https://ecs.page.link/Ygmc3>



When World War II came to the Outer Banks





“If”

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your
master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your
aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

If by Rudyard Kipling



English Literature

"If" is a famous poem written by Rudyard Kipling, first published in 1910 as part of his collection called "Rewards and Fairies." The poem offers a set of inspirational guidelines for living a noble and honorable life, emphasizing the virtues of patience, perseverance, self-confidence, and integrity.

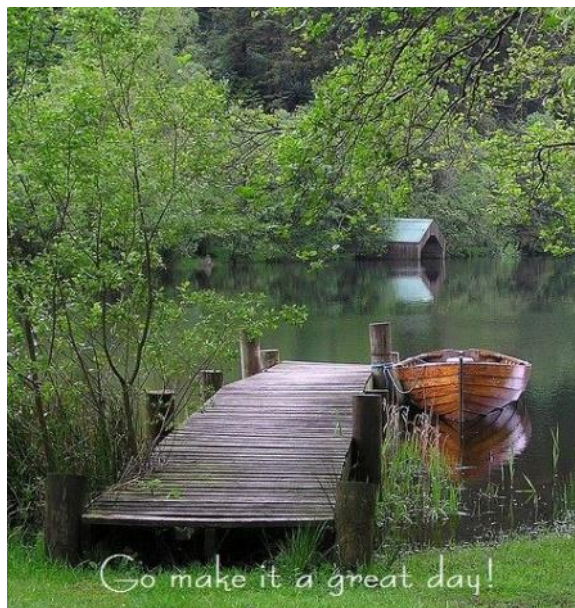
The poem is written as a father's advice to his son, imparting wisdom on how to navigate the challenges and complexities of life. Kipling explores various scenarios and situations, presenting the reader with a series of hypothetical conditions and how to respond to them.

The central theme of the poem revolves around maintaining a balanced perspective in the face of adversity, staying determined in the pursuit of one's goals, and displaying moral fortitude. Kipling emphasizes the importance of maintaining composure, taking responsibility for one's actions, and learning from failures.

Throughout the poem, Kipling highlights the qualities that make a person truly virtuous, including the ability to trust oneself while remaining humble, to persevere through hardships without losing hope, to treat success and failure with equanimity, to control one's emotions, and to have the capacity to forgive.

- Poetry Collection of Rudyard Kipling

(Book: <https://amzn.to/42TFtBj>)



THE NAVY CHIEF AND THE NAVY CHAPLAIN!

A Navy Chief and a Navy Chaplain both died in an accident.

The two were in line to see St. Peter at the Pearly Gates.

St. Peter asked the Navy Chief his name and looked it up in his book.

He then asked the Navy Chaplain for his name and looked it up in his book also.

"Now, if you will come with me, I will show you two, your eternal dwellings," said St. Peter.

They walked along the clouds and came to a huge mansion with all sorts of lavish trappings.

St. Peter turned to the Chief and told him this was to be his house.

The Chaplain, knowing how important he was to the church could hardly imagine what his house would be like.

St. Peter and the Chaplain continued on to a small, beat-up wooden shack.

St. Peter told the Chaplain that this would be his dwelling.

The Chaplain, shocked, said to St. Peter..."Just a minute! That other guy was a Navy Chief and he gets a mansion. I was a Navy Chaplain and the head of the church on the biggest Naval Base in the world, and this is all the reward I get?"

St. Peter looked at the Chaplain and said..."True, you have done great things. But we have lots of Chaplains in Heaven, and that guy was the first Navy Chief ever to make it up here."

(copied from another source)



“Balance”

God was missing for six days. Eventually, Michael, the archangel, found him, resting on the seventh.

He inquired, --- "Where have you been?"

God smiled deeply and proudly pointed downwards through the clouds,---- "Look, Michael. Look what I've made."

Archangel Michael looked puzzled, and said, ---- "What is it?"

"It's a planet," --- replied God, --- and I've put life on it. I'm going to call it Earth and it's going to be a place to test 'Balance.'"

"Balance?" --- inquired Michael, ---- "I'm still confused."

God explained, pointing to different parts of Earth...

"For example, northern Europe will be a place of great opportunity and wealth, while southern Europe is going to be poor... Over here I've placed a continent of white people, and over there is a continent of black people. Balance in all things..."

God continued pointing to different countries... "This one will be extremely hot, while this one will be very cold and covered in ice."

The Archangel, impressed by God's work, then pointed to a land area and said, "What's that one?"

"That's Texas, the most glorious place on earth. There are beautiful trees, fields, hills and gardens, it's days are filled with sunshine. The people from Texas are going to be handsome, intelligent, and humorous, and they are going to travel the world.

They will be extremely sociable, hardworking, high achieving, carriers of peace, and producers of good things."

Michael gasped in wonder and admiration, but then asked, "But what about balance, God? You said there would be 'balance.'"

God smiled an all-knowing smile... "I will create California ... Wait till you see the idiots I'll put there.



“And any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I think can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: ‘I served in the United States Navy.’”

– President John F. Kennedy



“It is necessary to learn from others' mistakes. You will not live long enough to make them all yourself.”

- Hyman G. Rickover, Admiral





SHIPMATES IN ACTION

**2023 USSVI National Convention
El Conquistador Hotel & Resort
Tucson, Arizona
8/29 – 9/4/2023**

Some pictures and various FB text postings of the 2023 USSVI Convention (Your editor)

8/29/23

Tom Williams - Beginning the USSVI National Convention in Tucson AZ. Great sunset and view from my room balcony. Also the swimming area is pretty nice. Meeting and having fun telling sea stories with fellow Bubblehead Shipmates.



Rick Mitchell is in **Las Cruces, NM.**

On my way to the **United States Submarine Veterans USSVI 2023 National Convention** in Tucson. Thought I was making good time but the car radio is telling me differently.

USSVI 2023 National Convention

8/30/23 - Welcome Aboard entertainment

Welcome Aboard Party. Mariachi Pueblo de Aztlan and Ballet Folkloric de Pueblo Guerreros. The performance was enjoyed by all. Wind Raven blesses the convention.



Test Depth Customs

What an honor, me at 41, the youngest here.
With the oldest qualified WW2 veteran at a
young 102.

Shipmates



FRITZ MARAZITA, JR
RICK MITCHELL
DENNIS MAITA



USSVI 2023 National Convention

8/31/23 - Holland Club breakfast and induction of three shipmates....Bob Saenz, Mike Ortiz and Doug Holt



USSVI 2023 National Convention

9/1/23 - Annual Business Meeting



UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS



CENTRAL TEXAS BASE



2023 FUND RAISER RAFFLE



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Gift Certificates

1st Place - \$1000 GC 2nd Place - \$750 GC
3rd Place - \$500GC 4th Place - \$250 GC

\$10 Per Ticket / 3 for \$25

CONTEST INFORMATION

- Only 1000 Tickets
- Drawing on Nov 15th @ Base Meeting
-at the Georgetown VFW
- 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, Texas Fallen Project and many, more.

LEND A HELPING ARM

BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, October 7th
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION

Blood Drive at the VFW Hall
1000 N. College Street, Georgetown



Scan the QR code or email Craig at cwellborn@weareblood.org to get signed up
Walk-ins Welcome!

For information about Eligibility:
whocandonate@weareblood.org

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Location for 2023 while San Gabriel Park is renovated.

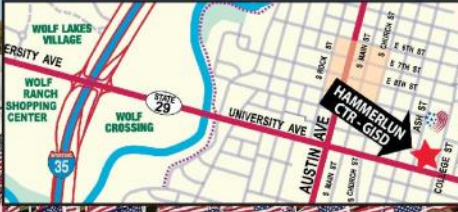

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NOVEMBER 2023

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

4-12 Flag Sales & Reposts
5 Opening Ceremonies
11 Veteran's Day Ceremony
12 Final Flag Sales & Pick-up

www.georgetowntxfieldofhonor.org • All net profits from flag sales are awarded to 501c3 organizations benefitting veterans and first responders.

