



THE DECK LOG

USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE

JANUARY 2025

VOLUME XIV - ISSUE 1



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 CENTRAL DISTRICT 4 COMMANDER

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EDITOR'S OFFICE



The Deck Log is a monthly publication of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., Central Texas Base. 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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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://ussubvets.org/home.asp>

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

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

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

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

USSVI National Office:

USSVI National Office
PO Box 1063
Groton CT 06340-1063
360-337-2978



2017 Tom Williams



2021 Rick Mitchell
2021 Bill Scott
2023 Carl Repp
2024 Frank Espinosa
2024 Virgil Claycamp



2010, 2014,
2017, 2020



2020 Base
2023 Bill Bellinghause
2024 Base



2018 Rick Mitchell
2020 Bob Steinmann,
2020 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/>
<https://ussubvets.org/home.asp>



www.ussvicentraltexasbase.org/
<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 (amercommerce.com)



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



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



<https://www.navyleague.org/news/council/greater-austin-council/>



www.navyleague.org



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



www.moaa.org



www.shiftcolors.navy.mil

The Newsletter
for Navy
Retirees.



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



<http://www.submarinesailor.com>



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



<https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/>



<http://isausa.org/>



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



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



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



<https://nationalinterest.org>



<https://gcaptain.com>



<https://warriormaven.com>



SILENT RUNNING

JANUARY LOST BOATS

"I can assure you that they went down fighting and that their brothers who survived them took a



USS Scorpion (SS-278)

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



USS Argonaut (SS-166)

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



USS Swordfish (SS-193)

Lost on Jan 12, 1945 with the loss of 89 officers and men somewhere near Okinawa, on her 13th war patrol. Probably was lost to a mine.



USS S-36 (SS-141)

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



USS S-26 (SS-131)

Lost on Jan 24, 1942 with the loss of 46 officers and men in the Gulf of Panama, on her 2nd war patrol. She was rammed by the USS PC-460 and sunk within seconds. The CO, XO and one lookout on the bridge, were the only survivors.





USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE NEWS

BASE COMMANDER'S REPORT



Happy New Year Shipmates,

I've been thinking for a long time what I should write for my last BC Report before being relieved by Curt Webber. So many things I could say and want to share but I'm not going anywhere just gonna have a new title. I will still be a member of the Central

Texas Base and United States Submarine Veterans. I will support as best I can as I always have and look forward to seeing new leadership step up. So I guess I have 3 things I'd like to share.

The 1st thing I'd like to share is about our various titles we all hold throughout our lives but this is in regards to our base and the USSVI. Yes, I was the BC for some time just like many before me, but I have always tried to just be Rick first. I took the title seriously and worked hard to support you all and your families. I think it's important that we realize that there is no one person or position that can do what it takes us all to do here. Yes we need people to be in charge, though I prefer to use the term lead, but we need to be friends and care for each other first or else I do not think the other can effectively happen. So don't get wrapped up in your or anyone else's titles. Learn who your shipmates are and let them get to know you.

The next thing I want to share is simply, "Be like Don!" You see one day when I was a bit younger (in my 40's) and still not sure about USSVI, Carla and I decided to attend a tolling Ceremony we heard about in Round Rock. Anyway, we came down and there were a bunch of "Old Salts" hanging out and we wandered around and not many said much to us, but Don did. Don greeted us, talked to us, and made us feel genuinely welcome. It is in large part the reason I decided to join USSVI and the CTB. But Don did not stop there, Don continued to take an interest in who I was and my family, we visited many times outside of USSVI functions and became good friends. Even though Don doesn't get out much anymore due to various reasons, he continues to stay in touch with me as I do him. So as an introvert and someone who would be perfectly happy being alone working on a project or something my wish is to encourage you all to "Be like Don". Look around for new faces and greet them, look for shipmates sitting alone and in silence at our meeting or events and talk to them, find out who they are. Even maybe more importantly, think about who you don't see any more and reach out to them. I think as Submarine sailors we have all have backgrounds to make us think we got this and keep to ourselves, but I also know our background is that we need everyone to make the ship, base, or whatever unit go. You do not need a title to lead or be a shipmate. Who remembers Larry Walts? Larry is now on his eternal patrol, and he used to usually sit in the middle row a little off to the right at our meetings. He was rather quiet and unassuming, but we always spoke, and he always remembered

what we talked about month to month and asked about my family and other things. He was part of the reason I stayed. So, please try to "Be Like Don!" or many others who I do not have the time to call them all by name. I am positive you will be deeply rewarded by this.

And of course, last thing and most importantly, Thank You! Thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve as your BC, Thank You for all your support, Thank You for continuing to remind me what an honor it is to have served in the Submarine Force and being called - Shipmate!

Rick Mitchell, 512-639-0035



Eternal Patrol



Lieutenant James Earl Carter Jr., USN

39th American President



<https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/people/presidents/carter.html>

President James Earl "Jimmy" Carter graduated from the [U.S. Naval Academy](#) in 1946 with distinction, after which he was assigned to USS *Wyoming* (E-AG 17) as an ensign. After completing two years of surface ship duty, Carter applied for submarine duty. He served as executive officer, engineering officer, and electronics repair officer on the submarine [SSK-1](#). When [Admiral Hyman G. Rickover](#) (then a captain) started [his program to create nuclear-powered submarines](#), Carter wanted to join the program and was interviewed and selected by Rickover. Carter was promoted to lieutenant and from 3 November 1952 to 1 March 1953, he served on temporary duty with the Naval Reactors Branch, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D.C., to assist "in the design and development of nuclear propulsion plants for naval vessels."

From 1 March to 8 October 1953, Carter was preparing to become the engineering officer for [USS *Seawolf*](#) (SSN-575), one of the first submarines to operate on atomic

power. However, when his father died in July 1953, Carter resigned from the Navy and returned to Georgia to manage his family interests. Carter was honorably discharged on 9 October 1953 and transferred to the retired reserve at his request with the rank of lieutenant. The *Seawolf*-class submarine *Jimmy Carter* (SSN-23) is named for the 39th president. [Read President Carter's complete biography.](#)

President James Earl Carter passed away on 29 December 2024.

Video: Jimmy Carter: A Navy Story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNbgd4lYsWY&t=9s>

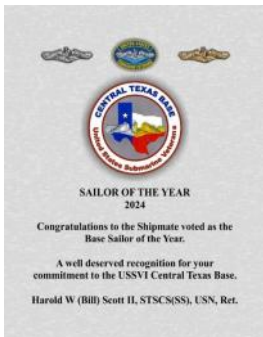
President Carter Joined USSVI in 1998, was a USSVI LA-Pasadena Life Member and a Holland Club member.

USSVI Central Texas Base

Rick Mitchell Facebook and email Post 12/21/2024.

Shipmates, here's a video from my local group of Submarine Veterans, [USSVI Central Texas Base](#) I am proud to be part of, and a look back at some of our activities and memories from 2024. [CTB 2024](#)

Just wanted to say thanks again to Curt and Laurie Webber for hosting our Christmas Party and Dave and all the others who helped make things happen and Chip for his generous donations. We were blessed with great weather, a beautiful setting, great food and I think pretty good company. We missed you if you could not make it. We announced our election and Sailor of the Year winners.



Shipmate Chip Pomeroy's metal art, presented to Bill.

Next year's Base Officers:

BC: Curt Webber, VC: Chuck Malone, Treasurer: Chris Glover, Yeoman: Dave Clark

Base Treasurer's Report - 15 November 2024

Financial Report for Period Ending 11/30/2024

Beginning Balance - 11/1/2024 - \$28,105.22



RBFCU Checking (Gen Fund) \$24,624.51
 RBFCU Savings (Mem Fund) \$3,719.81
 Cash to be deposited - \$0.00
 Uncleared Checks - **-\$1,180.00**

Ending Balance - 11/30/2024 - \$27,164.32

Submitted: Virgil Claycamp, Treasurer

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025 BIRTHDAYS



- David Paulson - 1st
- Bob Lind - 19th
- Craig Russell - 20th
- Charles Goertz - 20th
- Dylan Gray - 2/24

CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MEMBERSHIP

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

Members listed in Central Texas Database	91
Regular Annual Members	27
National Life Members	54
Base Life Members	63
Holland Club Members	45
Associate Members	1
Dual Members	5
Prospective Members:	0
War Veterans	77
Members pending:	0
Submitted: Chuck Malone, Membership	

New Members 2024

Name	Rate	Joined	Qual Boat/Year
Christopher Glover	FT1(SS)	10/15/24	USS Springfield SSN-761/1999
David P Clark	ETR1(SS)	3/14/24	USS Simon Bolivar SSBN-641/1976
Gary Morrison	STS1(SS)	3/14/24	USS Sargo SSN-583/1979

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

Our Heavenly Father, we are so helpless. We care so much for our brothers and friends. They are special to all of us. It hurts us to see them suffering. And while we cannot be with them Lord, You be with them please and be with

those who attend them. Comfort those who love them and need them, as well as those who must wait. Amen

Prayer for our brothers and friends in need.

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

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

First Monday, every Month, 0800 hours, Texas Veterans breakfast, Texas Grill, 101 State Hwy 71, Bastrop, TX 78602

15 January 2025, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587 and Zoom, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting.

19 February 2025, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting.

15 March 2025, Quarterly Social, TBD.

10-13 April 2025, Annual Lonestar Roundup, Arlington, Texas <https://www.arlington.org/> , details TBD.

15 April 2025, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587 and Zoom, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting.

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Kap(SS) for Kid(SS) Update

Kaps 4 Kids Chair – Still Vacant

Currently no future visits currently scheduled, but we are expected to have a couple scheduled after first of the year. Rick Mitchell will be taking the role of K4K Chair.

We still need an ambassador for our base for the USSVCF. Please let me know you are interested and let's talk about it.

Base Commander, Rick Mitchell

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Editor's Office

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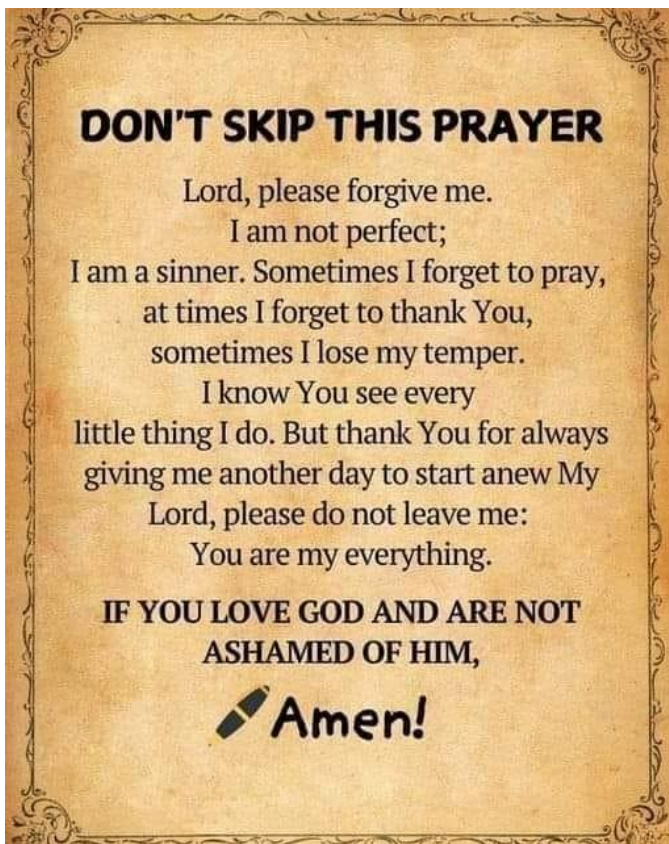
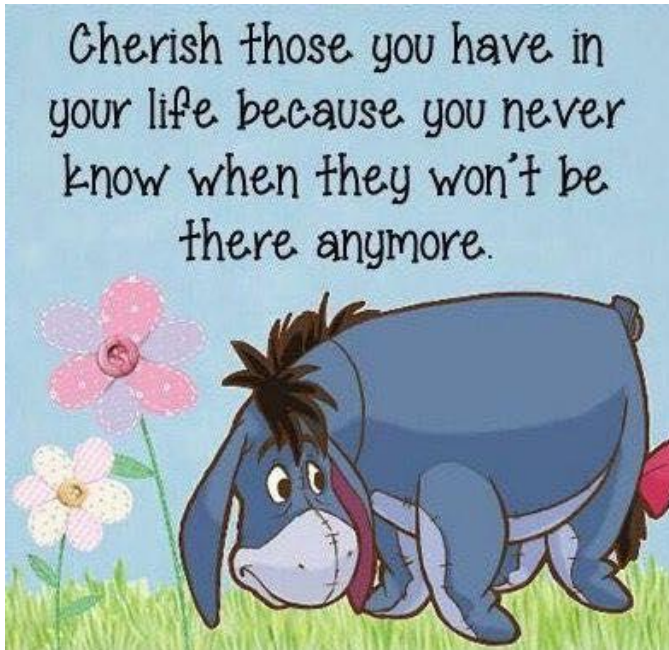
Lots goin' on around our base. Plenty to read and peruse here too. Me? I'm still keepin' busy juggling "The Deck

Log" - what else is new? Make yourself useful and send me a Sea Story or two, huh? Stop by my email (hscottss242@gmail.com) and say hello sometime.

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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USSVI Official Business



GEDUNK (SUBMARINE NEWS) FROM THE NET

NATIONAL ALL-HANDS BULLETIN

Kap(SS)4Kid(SS) K4K Bears

John Riley <info@ussvi.org>

12/11/2024

Shipmates,

On November 8th, the Groton Base K4K Team visited Yale New Haven Children's Hospital for their annual Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Week visit. We gave the Kids the newest K4K Program gift offering: K4K Teddy Bears! The bears were a huge hit! Attached are pictures of the Teddy Bears and of an overjoyed Penny, who excitedly hugged hers and named it Honey Bear!

John "Sid" Sidlovsky, K4K Chairman at the Hampton Roads Base and USSVI National Treasurer, had these made for his base about a year ago and sent me a couple of bears. I immediately loved them and added them to the items we could give to the Kids. Sid told me it was the idea of Hampton Roads Base member EMCS(SS) Craig Werner to give stuffed animals to the kids. Craig went on Eternal Patrol in August and had K4K Teddy Bears at his bedside when he passed.

Based on the many requests from base members to buy them for grandkids, etc., they are also great for Base K4K Program fundraising. Our USSVI National Storekeeper, Barry Commons, has them in stock: \$6.75 each.

Barry's contact info:nsk.ussvi@yahoo.com 925 679-1744

Offering them for a minimum donation of \$10.00 is a sure-fire way to raise money for your program.

With appreciation,

John Riley
US Submarine Veterans
National Chairman KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS) Program/
Charitable Foundation Fund Manager
https://www.ussvcf.org/kapss-4-kidss-fund
203 668-9131

NATIONAL ALL-HANDS BULLETIN

Veterans Service Officer - John Dudas

United States Submarine Veterans

Inc. info@ussvi.org

11/29/2024

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgzQXKWblhBlxvmrGdwzLjhKnznGb

USSVI VSO December 2024 Newsletter

Ed. As these VSO Newsletters are National All-Hands Bulletins, I'm only including the Google URL I receive for the article.

January 2025

(Ed., continuing with the updated "Submarine News" section by listing the various articles by title and attendant URL for reading at your own leisure.)

Reproduced from the Interesting Engineering website. Submarine detection at near-light-speed possible with China's sci-fi-like radar

https://www.yahoo.com/news/submarine-detection-near-light-speed-105017797.html?fr=sycsrp_catchall

Reproduced from the Euronews website. Colombian navy uncovers 'narco sub' in new drug trafficking route to Australia

https://www.euronews.com/2024/11/28/colombian-navy-uncovers-narco-sub-in-new-drug-trafficking-route-to-australia

Reproduced from the Newsweek website. US Cruise Missile Submarine Surfaces in West Pacific Outpost

US Cruise Missile Submarine Surfaces in West Pacific Outpost

Reproduced from the Newsweek website. Russian Attack Submarine Intercepted in South China Sea

Russian Attack Submarine Intercepted in South China Sea

Reproduced from the Buzz Hint website. Japan's Stealth Submarines: Revolutionizing Naval Power in the Pacific

Japan's Stealth Submarines: Revolutionizing Naval Power in the Pacific

Reproduced from the National Interest website. USS Minnesota: A (Sometimes) Floating Deterrent

USS Minnesota: A (Sometimes) Floating Deterrent

Reproduced from the ViewUSGlobal website. Russian Submarine Stirs Tensions in South China Sea, Philippines Respond with Force

Russian Submarine Stirs Tensions in South China Sea, Philippines Respond with Force

Reproduced from the Buzz Hint website. The Soviet K-222: A Titanium Marvel and Cold War Speed Demon

[The Soviet K-222: A Titanium Marvel and Cold War Speed Demon](#)

Reproduced from the *Navy Times* website. US Navy christens nuclear submarine USS Arkansas

[US Navy christens nuclear submarine USS Arkansas](#)

Reproduced from the *Daily Galaxy* website Submarine Mysteriously Disappears Beneath Antarctic Ice After Discovering Hidden Structures

[Submarine Mysteriously Disappears Beneath Antarctic Ice After Discovering Hidden Structures](#)

Reproduced from the *The Telegraph* website. The Silent Service is on the move. Watch out, China

[The Silent Service is on the move. Watch out, China](#)

Reproduced from the *Found and Explained* website. What ever happened to Cargo Submarines?

[What ever happened to Cargo Submarines? | Watch](#)

Reproduced from the *Slash Gear* website. 3 Of The Deadliest Attack Submarines In The US Navy

[3 Of The Deadliest Attack Submarines In The US Navy](#)

Reproduced from the *Navy Times* website. Navy expects to have first female submarine commander by 2028

[Navy expects to have first female submarine commander by 2028](#)

Reproduced from the *Zona Militaria* website. During its transit to the Pacific Fleet, the Russian Navy's nuclear submarine Ufa completed its official visit to China

<https://www.zona-militar.com/en/2024/12/13/during-its-transit-to-the-pacific-fleet-the-russian-navys-nuclear-submarine-ufa-completed-its-official-visit-to-china/>

Reproduced from the *24/7 Wall St* website. Discover the US Navy's Newest Fast Attack Submarine and Other Cutting-Edge Ships

[Discover the US Navy's Newest Fast Attack Submarine and Other Cutting-Edge Ships](#)

Reproduced from the *Newsweek.com* website. Satellite Photos Show Chinese Nuclear Submarine's Open Missile Hatches

<https://www.newsweek.com/satellite-photos-show-china-nuclear-submarine-open-missile-hatches-2001257>

Reproduced from the *Buzz Hint* website. USS Florida's Historic Deployment Showcases Superior Naval Capabilities

[USS Florida's Historic Deployment Showcases Superior Naval Capabilities](#)

Reproduced from the *Business Insider* website. I spent the night on a World War II submarine Airbnb that can sleep 65 people in sailors' bunks. Take a look inside.

[I spent the night on a World War II submarine Airbnb that can sleep 65 people in sailors' bunks. Take a look inside.](#)

Reproduced from the *WHRO.org* website. Outgoing head of Newport News Shipbuilding says demand for submarines at a "generational" level

<https://www.whro.org/military-veterans/2024-12-16/outgoing-head-of-newport-news-says-demand-for-submarines-at-a-generational-level>

Reproduced from the *1945.com* website. Russia's 'New' Lada-Class Submarine Explained in 5 Words

<https://www.19fortyfive.com/2024/12/russias-lada-class-submarine-problem-4-words/>

Reproduced from the *Yahoo.com* website. Germany triples submarine order to six boats in joint buy with Norway

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/germany-triples-submarine-order-six-151616577.html>

Reproduced from the *National Interest* website. Old But Kicking: The USS Jimmy Carter Submarine Keeps on Sailing

[Old But Kicking: The USS Jimmy Carter Submarine Keeps on Sailing](#)

Reproduced from the *West Seattle Blog.com* website. SEEN OFF WEST SEATTLE: Northbound submarine | West Seattle Blog...

<https://westseattleblog.com/2024/12/seen-off-west-seattle-northbound-submarine-2/>

Reproduced from the *Interesting Engineering* website. US Navy to get next-gen beast nuclear-powered attack submarine in 2040

[US Navy to get next-gen beast nuclear-powered attack submarine in 2040](#)

Reproduced from the *Interesting Engineering* website. Key Answer to China's Growing Surface Navy Is American Submarines - Business Insider

<https://www.businessinsider.com/key-answer-to-chinas-growing-surface-navy-is-american-submarines-2024-12>

Reproduced from the *Zona Militaria* website. The Northern Fleet of the Russian Navy has commissioned a new Yasen-M class nuclear-powered attack submarine.

<https://www.zona-militar.com/en/2024/12/27/the-northern-fleet-of-the-russian-navy-has-commissioned-a-new-yasen-m-class-nuclear-powered-attack-submarine/>

Reproduced from the *19fortyfive.com* website. Australia's New Submarines Will Be 'World's Most Advanced Fighting Machines'

<https://www.19fortyfive.com/2024/12/australias-new-submarines-will-be-worlds-most-advanced-fighting-machines/>

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Reproduced from the *History Computer (US)* website. From WWI to Today, This US Submarine Base Has Never Stopped Operating

[From WWI to Today, This US Submarine Base Has Never Stopped Operating](#)

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Reproduced from the *24/7 Wall St.* website. The Forgotten Dominance of American Submarines In World War II

[The Forgotten Dominance of American Submarines In World War II](#)

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Reproduced from the *Buzz Hint* website. USS Nautilus: Pioneering a New Era in Naval Warfare

[USS Nautilus: Pioneering a New Era in Naval Warfare](#)

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Reproduced from the *Slash Gear* website. 5 Of The Worst Submarine Disasters In Military History

[5 Of The Worst Submarine Disasters In Military History](#)

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Reproduced from the *Buzz Hint* website. The USS Scorpion: Unraveling the Mystery of a Cold War Tragedy

[The USS Scorpion: Unraveling the Mystery of a Cold War Tragedy](#)

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Reproduced from the *History Computer (US)* website. This US Navy Submarine Has Seen Service Since Reagan's Presidency

[This US Navy Submarine Has Seen Service Since Reagan's Presidency](#)

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Reproduced from the *Global Data* website. US Navy takes delivery of SSN 797 Virginia-class attack submarine

[US Navy takes delivery of SSN 797 Virginia-class attack submarine](#)

=====

Reproduced from the *National Interest* website. America's Gato-Class Submarine Was a World War II Killer

[America's Gato-Class Submarine Was a World War II Killer](#)

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This Month in History

From Shipmate Erik Heter, Base Historian

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The History of the USS Barb (SS-220)

The USS Barb (SS-220), a Gato-class submarine of the United States Navy, distinguished itself as one of the most decorated submarines of World War II. Constructed by General Dynamics' Electric Boat Division, Barb's keel was laid on June 7, 1941. She was launched on April 2, 1942, and commissioned shortly thereafter on July 8, 1942. Over her service, Barb demonstrated unparalleled adaptability, ingenuity, and bravery across both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters of war.

In her early operations, Barb undertook five war patrols in the Atlantic, primarily focusing on disrupting Axis maritime operations. One of her early notable missions was in support of Operation Torch, the Allied invasion of North Africa in November 1942. Beyond this, she also intercepted Axis blockade runners in European waters, significantly hindering enemy supply chains. By spring 1943, Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Ernest J. King ordered Barb to the Pacific Fleet, where she would achieve her most remarkable successes.

Between March 1944 and August 1945, Barb completed seven war patrols in the Pacific, where she became a nightmare for Japanese shipping. She sank a total of 17 vessels, amounting to 96,628 tons of enemy shipping. Notably, during her sixth war patrol (her first in the Pacific), Barb scored a decisive victory by sinking the freighter Fukusei Maru and collaborating with USS Steelhead to bombard industrial sites in the Philippines, triggering massive explosions.

A key chapter in Barb's Pacific operations began in May 1944 when Commander Eugene B. "Lucky" Fluckey took command. Under his leadership, Barb's seventh war patrol saw the sinking of five ships and two sampans, accumulating over 15,000 tons of enemy shipping. This marked the beginning of Barb's legacy under Fluckey's bold command, which included daring attacks on heavily defended targets.

One of Barb's most legendary exploits occurred during her eleventh war patrol in late 1944 and early 1945. Operating along the east coast of China, Barb entered Namkwan Harbor, a shallow and heavily mined area, where she launched eight torpedoes against a fleet of 30 anchored enemy ships. The audacious attack resulted in eight direct hits, sinking three ships and causing significant damage to oth-

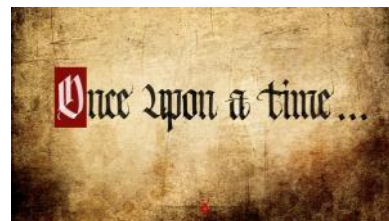
ers. For this mission, Barb earned a Presidential Unit Citation, and Commander Fluckey received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Barb's innovation extended beyond traditional submarine warfare. On June 22, 1945, she became the first submarine to launch rockets in combat, attacking Japanese shore installations in Shari. Later, on July 19, Fluckey and his crew executed an extraordinary operation that involved a small team going ashore to plant explosives on a Japanese train track. The explosion derailed a train, destroying 15 cars—a rare instance of land-based sabotage conducted by a submarine crew.



By the conclusion of her wartime service, Barb had not only sunk numerous enemy ships but had also demonstrated unprecedented ingenuity and courage. Her final patrol ended on August 2, 1945, at Midway. Over the course of her illustrious career, she not only dealt devastating blows to enemy forces but also rescued 14 Allied prisoners of war, showcasing the humanitarian aspect of her operations.

Following her decommissioning and recommissioning multiple times, the USS Barb was finally decommissioned on December 13, 1954. She was subsequently acquired by Italy, marking the end of her storied service in the U.S. Navy. The legacy of Barb and her crew, however, remains immortalized in naval history, epitomizing innovation, valor, and the relentless pursuit of victory.



If Submariners ran the DMV:

DRIVER QUALIFICATION TEST

Fuel System-

1. Draw a one-line diagram of the fuel system? Include all major components and describe the differences between carbureted and fuel-injected systems. (3 pts.)
2. Explain the use of Octane in fuel and give three examples. What level of Octane is best for your vehicle. (3pts)
3. You are sitting in the driver's seat of an unfamiliar automobile. Could you describe the method used to determine which side of the vehicle the fuel tank nozzle is located on? (1 pt).
4. What are the best fueling locations in your area and why? (1pt)

Drive Train-

5. Draw and label a 5-speed manual transmission from clutch to output rear axle differential. (5pts)
6. Draw and Label a cut-a-way view of a typical 8-cylinder engine (5 pts). Bonus 3 pts, Draw and Label a Wankel engine.

Electrical System

7. Draw the electrical distribution system for your vehicle. (3 pts)
8. Demonstrate how to access and change your fuses (2pts)

9. List the steps needed to both charge your dead battery and to jump-start your vehicle with jumper cables and another vehicle. (4pts)

Operations

10. List the steps required to change a tire? Assume the vehicle is a sedan with a spare tire and all tools stowed in the trunk. (2 pts)

11. Explain the Federal Interstate Highway numbering system? (1 pt)

12. Draw the speed vs. braking distance graph? Show all work. (2 pts)

13. You are driving an automobile at freeway speed. Describe the indications of an out-of-balance tire? List all steps required to determine which tire it is while driving. (3 pts)

14. True/False: Is it acceptable to cross a fog line to pass a stopped vehicle (on the right shoulder) to make a right turn at an intersection? (1 pt)

15. Describe the steps used to bring a vehicle safely to a stop from freeway speed after a tire blowout? (2 pts)

16. During a hydraulic brake failure at highway speeds in the far left lane towing a trailer, list all the steps necessary to safely park your vehicle on the right shoulder. (4pts)

Navigation

Navigation:

17. Describe and demonstrate voyage planning from here to Acadia National Park using the following Navigational Systems: installed vehicle navigation system, Waze, Google Maps, iMaps, hard-copy road atlas, and gas station directions (4pts) Bonus, Prove which is the most reliable and cite examples (2pts)

Communications

18. When, where, and how are cell phone communications legal while driving? (including text) (2pts)

19. Demonstrate how to properly pair a phone to your vehicle's hands-free system. (2pts)

20. Demonstrate how to pre-set radio stations in your vehicle. (4pts)

Maintenance

21. List the generally accepted periodicities for the following maintenance items? (1 pt ea):

Oil change: _____

Air filter: _____

Tire rotation: _____

Windshield wiper replacement: _____

Spark plug replacement: _____

22. List steps and demonstrate how to change the oil in your vehicle (3pts)

23. Draw and label your engine compartment's fluid access and testing ports.(3pts)

Bonus, List the manufacturer-recommended oil, brake fluid, and antifreeze (2pts)

Situational

24. You have been pulled over by Police; give 3 examples of proper speech and actions to avoid a citation or being arrested for the following situations:

You were speeding 10 miles over the limit, and the police officer asked if you knew how fast you were going

You had a drink about 30 min ago, but the waitress spilled the second one you ordered on you, and you just left the bar to go home and change, but you smell like a distillery, and the officer wants to check you for DUI.

Your taillight is out, and you look like someone with an outstanding warrant.

(3 pts each)

25. Final Question- You are a molecule of Oxygen. Enter the engine and depart the tailpipe; describe in detail each step and component you pass through and your current chemical composition upon leaving the vehicle? (5pts)

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"If..."

If a "MARINE" has to be somewhere important in the morning. Then he calls in sick and he calls someone to take his place. Is the guy he calls called a "SUBMARINE"?

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Resident Expert

By 'Dex' Armstrong

In 1959 when I was a freshly minted Sub School grad....so damn salty, I had, "When it rains, it pours" embroidered in the cuffs of my blues. I was in the SEA detail, stationed on the anchor pelican hook below the walking deck up near the bear trap.

We had put all lines over....as a mitigating circumstance, there was all sorts of noise topside. I heard the word ANCHOR yelled down to me from topside. I did not hear it preceded by the word SECURE.

The anchor was my big job...I didn't want anyone to question my ability or reaction time...so I yanked the pelican hook release... and listened to what had to be two miles of anchor chain rattle out and make its' way to the bottom of Pier 22. Then I got an unscheduled visit with my COB... the first of many intimate moments we were to share. I remember such endearing terms as "Stupid Goddam Sonuva-bitch" and "Where in the hell did we find an A.H. like you?" It was kinda love at first sight.

During the course of this convivial interlude, it was explained to me how to engage the gear that would bring the chain up from its' new location....three links at a time, so that they could be hosed off. You see...two miles of anchor chain has a nasty habit of burying itself in what is technically known in the trade as ANCHORAGE OOZE... the slimy crap that lives in the water next to DesSub Piers, Norfolk. While my shipmates were sucking suds at Bells....And the Topside Watch couldn't stop laughing...I brought up five or six links at a time then ran to the hose on the Pier and hosed it off. It took a couple of hours, but I got all the links sparkling clean and back snug in their beds...and I went down and hopped in my dress canvas and headed over.

When I got to Bells, got a pitcher and found a place at a

table with my shipmates... some goddam Engineman off the REDFIN came rolling through the door and yelled, "Boys and Girls.... you'll never guess what some idiot bastard on REQUIN did." And God bless him...John T. O'Niel, hollered back..."The Old Man wanted to wash down the goddam anchor chain, you stupid sonuvabitch. How long you been in this mans Navy? You never heard of the old custom of sloshing your anchor chain during a 'first night in' battery charge? If I was as wet behind the ears as you obviously are, damned if I wouldn't keep my goddam mouth shut." Then he winked at me..."Kid. the only guys who have the right to ride your hip pockets are your shipmates...that's another old custom."

And they did... forever... and ever. We once anchored off Bermuda and I was called topside... and the Old Man let me drop the bastard...because (his words) I was his "Resident Expert". DEX

Dad Jokes

Vampires are always looking for their necks victim.



W Jack Collins

12/1/2024



Linda and I participated in the Wreaths for Vets at Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery with the [USSVI Central Texas Base](#) . Had the honor and privilege to honor Al and Imogene Block by laying a wreath on their graves. Al was a Pearl Harbor survivor

USSVI Central Texas Base

On Saturday Nov 30th a few members of the Central Texas Base of the [United States Submarine Veterans](#) gathered at the [Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery](#) for the annual [Wreaths for Vets](#) wreath laying. What an amazing effort

and execution of the program honoring all 16,500 buried or interred veterans by placing wreaths on every marker. Some including our shipmates on eternal patrol and some family members also. Thanks to those who were able to make it out for the ceremony: Linda and [W Jack Collins](#) , Chris Glover , Rachel, Chris Munn ,and [Rick Mitchell](#) It was interesting that our guest speaker today was a General Admiral. Actually, it was LT GEN Kevin Admiral, commander of the III Armored Corps. Bravo Zulu Sir!

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CTB Annual Christmas Social

12/14/2024

Christmas Social slide show: <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1312758693227567>

Ed., I have individual pictures in the slide show . Email me if you want one.

[USSVI Central Texas Base](#) is with [Rick Mitchell](#) and 4 others

12/15/2024

Base Christmas Party yesterday hosted by Curt and Laurie Webber at their home. If you weren't there we really missed you, and you missed some really amazing people along with some really outstanding smoked Prime Rib! [H. Bill Scott](#) was announced as our Sailor of the Year, and we have a full slate of new officer stepping in to help lead our base. Thanks Everyone and Merry Christmas to all!

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**Wreaths for Vets
Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery
Killeen, Texas
30 November 2024**







