



THE DECK LOG

USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE

SEPTEMBER 2024

VOLUME XIII - ISSUE 9



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



The new USS Idaho SSN-799 launching

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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.



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

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

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

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

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://ussvicentratexasbase.org/>



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 Bellinghausen
 2024 Base



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/>
<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 \(americommerce.com\)](http://Sub Vet Store (americommerce.com))



<https://www.sublant.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



<https://nationalinterest.org>



<https://gcaptain.com>



<https://warriormaven.com>



I'm always looking for good stuff for The Deck Log. Won't you submit something? -ed.

SILENT RUNNING

SEPTEMBER LOST BOATS

"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 S-5 (SS-110)

Lost on September 1, 1920 when a practice dive went wrong and she sank bow-first, with her stern showing above the water. In a dramatic adventure, her exhausted crew was rescued during the next few days. Salvage attempts were unsuccessful, S-5 settled to the bottom and was abandoned.



USS Grayling (SS-209)

Lost on Sept 9, 1943 with the loss of 76 men near the Tablas Strait. Grayling was on her 8th war patrol and sank two ships before being lost.



USS Pompano (SS-181)

Pompano was sunk (between Sept 17 and Oct 5) with the loss of 77 men while on her 7th war patrol. Possibly lost on Sept 17, 1943. Japanese records show that a submarine was sunk in her patrol area on 17 September by air & depth charge attack off the Aomori Prefecture near Shiriya Zaki. Before being lost, she sank two enemy cargo ships. The exact cause of her loss remains unknown, but she probably was sunk by the air/sea attack above or fell victim to a mine on or after 9/25/1943. This boat's last recorded ship (Taiko Maru) sunk happened on Sept 25th, so she probably hit a mine on or after that date but before Oct 5th, when she was scheduled back at Midway.



USS S-51 (SS-162)

Lost on Sept 25, 1925 with the loss of 33 men when it was sunk after collision with SS City of Rome off Block Island.



USS Cisco (SS-290)

Lost on Sept 28, 1943 on her first war patrol with the loss of 76 men in the Sulu Sea west of Mindinao.





USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE NEWS

BASE COMMANDER'S REPORT



Hello Shipmates and Friends,

I just returned home from a good National Convention in Cleveland this week. I think the USS Cod base did a really good job. I got to see our members Weldon Koenig, Joe Kruppa, and of course Tom Williams up there. There was a lot to do and much to

learn. Of course, there are a few meetings which are scattered about and help us learn about new things and what has been going on and then there is the Annual Board Meeting in which all membership is encouraged to attend and where we go over the state of the organization and swear in new officers as elected by you. I think though what I enjoy best is the opportunity to meet up with old friends and shipmates. Also, the opportunity to form new friendships and meet people you have not seen for some time. This year I was riding down the elevator heading down for breakfast and a guy hopped in and by the time we hit the first floor we realized he was my first A-Gang chief on my qual boat, USS Groton. I also ran into an old friend from the USS Parche, who just so happens to be the Sublant Force Master Chief. 42 years ago, and 25 years ago, it is crazy how you can just sit down like no time has passed and talk up a storm. Really kind of the same for when you meet anyone who has earned their fish, its a special thing we all went through and are part of and I know nowhere else or any other community that feels the same. I hope all of you get to get out and have the opportunity attend one of our conventions and if not nationally maybe a round up or even your base events.

I wanted to thank Carl and everyone also for running a great meeting while I was gone. It's good to be surrounded by a bunch of good people knowing there is always someone ready to take care of business. I'd like to see more of you consider taking on various roles in the base. We have many appointed positions and of course the 4 elected positions that no one would be upset if you volunteered to take one on or run for an elected position. The more participation we have the stronger the base is. This would also ensure we do not burn any one individual out. What are your interests, what are you willing to do, please consider stepping up into one of these or other positions and help lead or base into the future. Give me a call and lets talk about it.

Saving the best for last! Congratulations to all of you in being part of a base that earned a Meritorious Award this year which is presented to the Base in each class that exemplifies the Motto, "Pride Runs Deep ", who, by the efforts and involvement of an individual Base Member; or if a Base Award, by a group of Members within the Base, promote a positive image of the United States Navy Submarine Force and/or the United States Submarine Veterans through participation in local veteran affairs, parades, school activities, and presentations to civic, legislative, veterans, patriotic, and other local area organizations. This

would not be possible without the efforts of many of you. This is a big deal and you should be proud of the base for achieving this award. I would also like to Congratulate both Frank Espinosa and Virgil Claycamp for their selection as Robert Link National Commander Commendation Award. This award is awarded to a member in recognition of the Nominee's significant and dedicated stewardship or leadership roles towards the smooth operation of a USSVI Base, District, or Regional area of responsibilities and the nominee's loyalty to the attendance and responsiveness when the Base issues a call to action for Base, District, Regional, and National events. Hope to see many of you at our social on September 21st when we present these awards.

Thanks for everything you all do!

Rick Mitchell

512-639-0035



USSVI CTB Base Meeting Minutes

Location: VFW Post 8587

Meeting opened at 18:57 by Carl Repp, Base Vice Commander.

E-Board was present with the exception of Rick Mitchell, attending National Convention

Meeting Minutes: June Minutes approved

Sailing List: VFW 17 Members

Binnacle List: John Roberts, Chuck Trahan, Don Atkins and Coy Smith.

Opening Prayer: Bob Steinmann led the base in our opening Prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chuck Malone

Tolling of the Boats – Frank Espinosa Reading, Chuck Malone Tolling

Officer and Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report: Virgil Claycamp

Funds as of 1 Aug 2024

1 July Balance \$27,909.05

31 July Balance \$26,959.32

 General: \$24,305.20

 Memorial: \$4,171.92

Uncleared Checks: - \$1,517.80

Storekeeper – Virgil Claycamp No update

Memorial (Gene Hall): The Park renovations around the Memorial are complete and open. Torpedo will need some touch up work.

Kaps 4 Kids: Currently the K4K chair is vacant and we are looking for someone to take on the position. The next event will be at McLanes Children's in Temple, Texas. 6 Sep 2024 at 10:30. Two or three slots are open, Let Rick M. know if you are interested in participating.

Parade (Tom Sprague): No update

Membership (Chuck Malone): 88 Current Members, 52 National Life, 52+ Base Life and 45 Holland Club.

Birthdays 2024: 8/2 David Lewis, 8/4 Garret Onderdonk IV, 8/12 Garret Onderdonk III, 8/18 Hubert Jackson, 8/21 Jack Bellinoff and 8/27 Virgil Claycamp.

Eric Heter presented a comprehensive report on the History of the **USS Wahoo SS-239**.

Unfinished, Ongoing and Old Business

USSVI National Convention was held in Cleveland, Ohio. 19-24 August 202

The 2025 Convention is scheduled for Orlando, FL, and the the 2026 Convention is scheduled for Corpus Christi, TX

Rick Mitchell was Elected as the **New Central Region Director** and was sworn in at the Convention. Congratulations Rick!

Honor Flight Austin: They are searching for WWII, Korea and Vietnam Veterans. For more information or to apply for this FREE TO VETERANS trip; call 888-530-8880 or go to the website <http://www.honorflightaustin.org/forms/veteran-application/>. The next Flights are: 6-7 Sep 2024, 27-28 Sep 2024 and 25-26 Oct 2024.

Blood Drive, Combined VSO Blood Drive at the VFW 8587 Post located at 1000 N College Street, Georgetown, TX on 12 Oct between 12:00-16:00. For more information or to sign up send email to Craig at cwell-born@weareblood.org and for eligibility requirements send questions to wocandonate@weareblood.org Frank Espinosa is the Base and VFW Contact.

Car and Motorcycle Show will be held at the VFW Post 8587 at 1000 N College St, Georgetown, TX on 21 Sep 2024 between 10:00-16:00.

NEW Business:

Annual Fund Raiser: It was determined at the meeting that we would hold off on having a 2024 Fundraiser and will investigate alternatives to the Raffles we have traditionally held. One option proposed was to have a combined Car Show and BBQ Cookoff.

This after discussion and a Motion by Gene Hall to have a one year 'hold' while we look at these other options; it was seconded by Bill Scott and Virgil Claycamp.

The initial committee to look into something new are: Curt Webber, Gene Hall, Virgil Claycamp and Carl Repp.

USSVCF: The United States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation. The Foundation is looking for members to join in the Base Ambassador Program, www.ussvcf.org for details.

The Foundation has supported the USS Cobia, and the Brotherhood Fund has directly helped Shipmates in need.

Good of the Order

50/50 Raffle – \$38 of \$75 was won by Frank Abernathy

Gene Hall brought several Boat Plaques, a set of Wooden Dolphins other items for the taking with a donation to the Base.

Next Event - 21 Sep 2024 11:00 Base Social at the Round Rock West Park, located at 500 Round Rock West Drive. Please REMEMBER TO Meet at the Torpedo Memorial located at 600 N Lee Street in Round Rock for a Group Photo at the Newly Renovated Memorial Park with our MK 14 Torpedo. Vests and Ball Caps are requested.


Next Meeting - 16 Oct 2024 18:00 Social and 19:00 Meeting at VFW Post with ZOOM.

Sailing List: Base Members local at the VFW Post 8587 (17): Frank Abernathy, Harry Boyer, Bill Brinkman, Ed Carr, David Clark, Virgil Claycamp, Ken Dallman, Frank Espinosa, Gene Hall, Eric Heter, Hubert Jackson, Chuck Malone, Dale Messing, Carl Repp, Bill Scott, Bob Steinmann and Curt Webber.

Meeting Adjourned by Carl Repp, 2001 hours

Minutes submitted by Frank Abernathy, Yeoman, 27 Aug 2024

SEPTEMBER 2024 BIRTHDAYS



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
 Tony Ellis—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	88
Regular Annual Members	26
National Life Members	52
Base Life Members	61
Holland Club Members	45
Associate Members	1
Dual Members	5
Prospective Members:	0
War Veterans	75
Members pending:	0

Submitted: Chuck Malone, Membership

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BASE TREASURER'S REPORT

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15 August 2024

Financial Report for Period Ending 7/31/2024

Beginning Balance - 7/31/2024 - \$27,909.05



RBFCU Checking (Gen Fund) 24,305.20
RBFCU Savings (Mem Fund) \$4,171.92
Cash to be deposited - \$00.00
Uncleared Checks - -\$1,517.80

Ending Balance - 07/31/2024 - \$26,959.32

Submitted: Virgil Claycamp, Treasurer

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STOREKEEPER CORNER

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The Central Texas Base (CTB) Supply Store is open for business. The Supply Store can obtain most of the items you need for memorabilia, your vest, gifts for others, etc. You can order them from the Storekeeper at a meeting or online at vclaycamp@yahoo.com. CTB can often get items at a lower than normal price, so you save money. The SK can search the net to find out-of-the-ordinary items, for all branches of the service. When requesting a ship's patch, tell the SK which coast you served on board, as the patches are often different for each coast. The Base E-board is working on a way to inform you of the SK items in stock and prices and a way for to you purchase them either at the in-person meetings, or via an online email system to the SK for in-stock items.

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BINNACLE LIST

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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. Shipmates noted at the August Base Meeting: Chuck Trahan, Don Atkins, John Roberts, Don Atkins, Coy Smith.

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.

September 2024

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

21 September 2024, Quarterly Social, 1100 hours at: Round Rock West Park, [500 Round Rock West Drive](#), 500 Round Rock W Dr, Round Rock, TX 78681.

16 October 2024, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587 and Zoom , 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting.

20 November 2024, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587 and Zoom , 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting.

154 December 2024, Annual Christmas Social, TBD

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Kap(SS) for Kid(SS) Update

Kaps 4 Kids Chair – Still Vacant

The next visit will be the McLane Children's Medical Center -Temple, a medical facility located in Temple, TX, Friday Sept 6th at 10:30 and there are still 2-3 spots open.

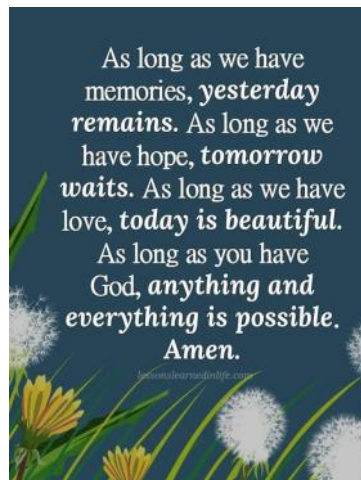
As discussed at the August meeting, we are still looking for a new Kap(SS)4Kid(SS) chairman and we still need an ambassador for our base for the USSVCF. Neither of the positions takes a while lot of work yet can provide so much benefit to the base and others. Isn't it time you considered playing a more active role in our base? Please let me know you are interested and let's talk about it.

Base Commander, Rick Mitchell

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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Editor's Office

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.

The September edition cover story: Shows the 'Wet' launch of the USS Idaho.



Apply now at www.honorflightaustin.org/forms/veteran-application. For additional information call: 1-888-530-8880 or: email at contact@honorflightaustin.org (shown in the above graphic)

2024 FALL FLIGHTS

Honor Flight #92: September 6 - 7, 2024
Honor Flight #93: September 27 - 28, 2024
Honor Flight #94: October 25 - 26, 2024

September Base Social

8/21/2024, 1100 hours

Round Rock West Park, 500 Round Rock West Drive, Round Rock, TX, <https://www.roundrocktexas.gov/park/round-rock-west-park/>

- Burger and dogs along with fixings and some sides will be provided, also water, tea and soda
- Feel free to bring something extra and there is no charge, but we ask to consider maybe \$5/person donation
- There is a small lake/pond for kayak, fishing, etc. Check it out on the web.
- I would also like to get a group picture at the memorial now that it is open that same morning at 1000. The memorial is only a couple miles away from the park

September 2024

where we will have our picnic. Even if members do not plan on going to the picnic I ask that they all strongly consider showing up with vests and ball caps for the group pic similar to like what we did for the convention.

Did You Know?

8/20/2024

National Eagle Scout Association

Christopher Vincent August 14 at 8:41 AM ·

<https://www.ussvi.org/Scouting-Recognition-Program>

Contact: [Bill Bellinghausen](#) for recognition in Central Texas.. ie, [Capitol Area Council](#)

USSVI SCOUTING RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Eagle Scout Quartermaster Summit

The Submarines of the United States Navy are the most complex naval warships built to date. The Crews are the most knowledgeable in their specialty and have the highest training of any class of Naval vessels.

During WWII, a poster showed a very young sailor at the wheel of a submarine. The caption was "My father won't let me drive his car, and here I am steering a \$25,000,000.00 submarine". Responsibility comes early as a member of a submarine crew. Each crew member must be familiar with the entire submarine and possess a thorough knowledge of his assigned department, as things happen fast with the depth and speed where they operate.

Just as the Submariners are the best-educated and best-trained Sailors, those Scouts with the most ability and highest motivation are the ones that complete the journey to reach the rank of Eagle Scout, Quartermaster, or Summit.

We feel that there are many parallels between joining the Brotherhood of the Submariners and joining the Brotherhood of Eagle Scouts, Quartermasters, or Summits.

We would be honored to be a part of the ceremony that recognizes today's young men and women as having joined their respective Brotherhood.

Veterans Service Organizations of Georgetown We Are Blood Drive

Veterans Service Organizations of Georgetown are having a blood drive! So c'mon in to lend a helping arm and help us save local lives. We'll be hanging out at the VFW in the large hall.

October 12, 2024, Noon - 4 p.m.

VFW Post 8587, 1000 North College Street, Georgetown, TX 78626

It's easy, just make an appointment online by clicking here:

https://www.wrbdonor.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/65717

Or call us at 512-206-1266 and mention group code D682. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are still welcome.

Page 8

If you have eligibility questions, check out We Are Blood's [website](#). If you have more specific questions, or would like assistance signing up, call We Are Blood at 512-206-1266.

For questions specific to this drive, contact Frank Espinosa at fespinosajr@att.net or (512) 639-0451.

*Remember! Eat a full meal before donating and bring your photo ID.

If you have concerns about eligibility, specifically regarding travel or past residency outside the United States, please contact whocandonate@weareblood.org

LEND A HELPING ARM

BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, October 12
Noon - 4pm
VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION

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



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

For information about Eligibility:
whocandonate@weareblood.org




KEEP A FULL MEAL BEFORE
DONATING AND PLEASE
BRING A PHOTO ID.

DRAWN TOGETHER
SINCE 1951

USSVI National Awards for Central Texas Base

Congratulations to our Base and Shipmates





Robert Link was the first National Commander of the United States Submarine Veterans

This 2024 Robert Link Award is presented in his name to

Virgil Claycamp
Central Texas Base

for superior performance and contributions to the
United States Submarine Veterans
Your significant voluntary work has made a major impact on the success of our organization.





Robert Link was the first National Commander of the United States Submarine Veterans

This 2024 Robert Link Award is presented in his name to

Frank Espinosa
Central Texas Base


for superior performance and contributions to the
United States Submarine Veterans
Your significant voluntary work has made a major impact on the success of our organization.



The 2024 Meritorious Base Award
is presented to

Central Texas Base

Which having been deemed by a panel of judges to be the Base that most exemplifies the U.S. Submarine Veteran's motto, "Pride Runs Deep," and by its efforts and involvement in local veterans affairs, parades, school activities, among other similar endeavors, either personally or through and/or with others has promoted the concept of honor, duty and the pride of the U.S. Navy Submarine Force to the General Public.





USSVI Official Business

NATIONAL ALL-HANDS BULLETIN
Time Sensitive Veterans Service Officer Update
From the Desk of John Dudas, Veteran Service Officer

John Dudas, Veteran Service Officer via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com, 7-31-2024

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgzQVxtlTTdCvkKpJTpzqbRxhrWhR>

USSVI VSO News for August 2023

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NATIONAL ALL-HANDS BULLETIN

Charitable Foundation Update

USSVCF August 2024 Shipmates Caring About Shipmates Monthly Newsletter

Robert J. Bachman vp-ed@ussvcf.org via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com

7/20/2024

Shipmates,

USSVCF is a standalone fully certified 501 (C) 3 charitable organization. This edition of our - USSCF one page Newsletter contains a short video from the Memorial Fund Manager Don Young and updates via links within the newsletter. This newsletter focuses only on the United States Submarine Charitable Foundation Memorial Fund, how this fund supports Submarine Veterans. Don Young explains this very well in his video, please take a moment and view the Newsletter and the Video.

To view the USSVCF August 2024 *Shipmates Caring About Shipmates* Monthly Newsletter please click this link: <https://august-2024-ussvcf-newsletter.my.canva.site/>

All newsletters are available for viewing on the USSVCF home page www.USSVCF.org.

All Charitable Foundation accounts have been reconciled with their respective bank and brokerage statements monthly through June 30, 2024. In June the Scholarship Fund Manager authorized the USSVCF Treasurer to print and mail him 60 \$2,200.00 scholarship checks. They have been mailed directly to the colleges and many have already been cashed. All financial reports are available for viewing by USSVI Members by clicking on this link <https://www.ussvcf.org/cf-financials.html>.

Bob Bachman
VP - Executive Director
USSV Charitable Foundation
516 532 0904
vp-ed@ussvcf.org, www.ussvcf.org

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NATIONAL ALL-HANDS BULLETIN

USSVI 2024 National Elections

USSVI National Commander <info@ussvi.org>

8/28/2024

Shipmates,

National Officers

USSVI National Commander - Jon Jaques, Volunteer Base

National Senior Vice Commander - Tim Carlisle, Mare Island Base

September 2024

National Junior Vice Commander - Tom Williams, Cowtown Base

National Secretary - David Farrugia, Tang Base

National Treasurer - John Sidlovsky, Hampton Roads Base

Regional Directors

Northeast - Jeff Walsh, Groton Base

Southeast - Ken Nichols, Nautilus Base

Central - Rick Mitchell, Central Texas Base

Western - Pete Juhos, Gold Country Base

Bill Andrea, NC

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NATIONAL ALL-HANDS BULLETIN

Eternal Patrol Notice

National Commander info@ussvi.org

Shipmates, Families, and Friends,

With great sadness in my heart, I report that we received news that Tudor Davis went on Eternal Patrol last night, Wednesday, August 28, 2024, around 1700. For those of you who may not know of him, Tudor was a WWII Veteran, a member of the Blueback Base, a founding member of Bremerton Base, and a former National Commander (1984-86). Earlier this year, he celebrated his 100th birthday.

Tudor enlisted in Philadelphia, PA, on 12/31/1941. He qualified in Submarines in 1943 on the USS Halibut (SS-232). He was a Life Member and was inducted into the prestigious Holland Club. On behalf of Bremerton Base, we offer our sincere condolences to Tudor Davis' family.

Hand Salute

"There is a port of no return where ships may lay at anchor for a little space. And then, some starless night, the cable slips, leaving only an eddy at the mooring space. Gulls veer no longer, Sailor, rest your oar. No tangled wreckage will be washed ashore."

TMC Davis, Rest Your Oar!

Jon Jaques, NC

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GEDUNK (SUBMARINE NEWS) FROM THE NET

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(Ed., continuing with the updated "Submarine News" section by listing the various articles by title and attendant URL for reading at your own leisure. Let me know if this suits you all for future newsletters, including any "SOURCE" that you're not enamored with in the reporting.

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Source: National Interest: A German U-Boat Just Traveled Where You Might Least Expect It

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/german-u-boat-just-traveled-where-you-might-least-expect-it-212083>

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Source: Newsweek: Russia Submarine Captain Gave Order to 'Arm' Torpedoes in Brush With US Sub

<https://www.newsweek.com/russia-submarine-us-standoff-arctic-ocean-1931520>

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Source: Eurasian Times: Russia Deploy Three Submarines Armed With Cruise Missiles In Azov-Black Sea Region For 1st Time – Kyiv

<https://www.eurasiantimes.com/for-1st-time-russia-deploys-three-submarine/>

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Source: Breaking Defence: US needs more nuclear subs, mobile ICBMs and tactical nukes: Heritage report

<https://breakingdefense.com/2024/07/us-needs-more-nuclear-subs-mobile-icbms-and-tactical-nukes-heritage-report/>

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Source: National Interest: China's Submarine Fleet Is Trying to Catch Up to the U.S. Navy

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/chinas-submarine-fleet-trying-catch-us-navy-212095>

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Source: Newsweek: U.S. Advanced Nuclear Attack Submarine Inches Closer to China

<https://www.newsweek.com/us-virginia-class-nuclear-attack-submarine-china-guam-pacific-1932409>

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Source: www.fox19.com: USS Cincinnati: Cold War-era sub finds new home at Voice of America park

<https://www.fox19.com/2024/07/31/uss-cincinnati-cold-war-era-sub-finds-new-home-voice-america-park/>

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Source: National Interest: Why the U.S. Navy's Sturgeon-class Submarines Dominated Everything

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/why-the-u-s-navys-sturgeon-class-submarines-dominated-everything-212140>

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Source: National Interest: Japan's Soryu-Class Submarines are Among the Best Stealth Subs Ever

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/japans-soryu-class-submarines-are-among-best-stealth-subs-ever-212140>

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Source: National Interest: The Navy's Ohio-Class SSGNs Have 'Unprecedented Strike Capability'

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/navys-ohio-class-ssgns-have-unprecedented-strike-capability-212134>

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Source: The Telegraph: British submarine software

developed in Russia and Belarus

[British submarine software developed in Russia and Belarus: The Telegraph \(msn.com\)](https://www.thetelegraph.com/news/uk/2024/07/24/british-submarine-software-developed-in-russia-and-belarus/)

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Source: National Interest: Russia Snapped: Navy Unveiled from the Sea Ohio-Class 'Missile Boat' as Warning

[Russia Snapped: Navy Unveiled from the Sea Ohio-Class 'Missile Boat' as Warning \(msn.com\)](https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/russia-snapped-navy-unveiled-from-the-sea-ohio-class-missile-boat-as-warning-212245)

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Source: Naval News.com: Electric Boat awarded \$1.3 billion contract modification for long lead time material for Virginia-class submarines

<https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2024/08/electric-boat-awarded-1-3-billion-contract-modification-for-long-lead-time-material-for-virginia-class-submarines/>

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Source: National Interest: 750 Days on Patrol: 1 U.S. Navy Ohio-Class Missile Submarine Did the Unthinkable

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/750-days-patrol-1-us-navy-ohio-class-missile-submarine-did-unthinkable-212245>

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Source: National Interest: Why China Fears the Navy's Los Angeles-Class Attack Submarine

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/why-china-fears-navys-los-angeles-class-attack-submarine-210037>

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Source: National Interest: The U.S. Navy Is Sending Virginia-Class Submarines to China's Doorstep

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/us-navy-sending-virginia-class-submarines-chinas-doorstep-212249>

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Source: Naval Technology: More funds to complete overhaul of Los Angeles-class SSN 768

<https://www.naval-technology.com/news/more-funds-to-complete-overhaul-of-los-angeles-class-ssn-768/>

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Source: Business Insider: Navy SEALs dropped in on a nuclear-powered submarine in the Pacific, drilling for a higher-end fight

<https://www.businessinsider.com/navy-seals-dropped-in-on-a-submarine-in-the-pacific-2024-8>

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Source: The U.S. Sun: China wants to install high-powered lasers on its nuclear submarines to knock out enemy spy satellites

<https://www.the-sun.com/news/12167842/china-nuclear-submarine-lasers/>

Source: msn.com: USS Jimmy Carter: The Navy's Silent Sentinel of the Deep

[USS Jimmy Carter: The Navy's Silent Sentinel of the Deep \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/uss-jimmy-carter-the-navys-silent-sentinel-of-the-deep)

Source: War History Online: The USS Jimmy Carter (SSN-23) is Just One of Three Submarines to Be Named for a Living Person

[The USS Jimmy Carter \(SSN-23\) is Just One of Three Submarines to Be Named for a Living Person \(msn.com\)](https://www.warhistoryonline.com/2024/08/12/the-uss-jimmy-carter-ssn-23-is-just-one-of-three-submarines-to-be-named-for-a-living-person/)

Source: Stars & Stripes: US submarine trains in Mediterranean amid tensions in Middle East

<https://www.stripes.com/branches/navy/2024-08-10/submarine-mediterranean-israel-iran-14815882.html>

Source: Interesting Engineering: USS Idaho: Futuristic nuclear-powered fast attack Navy submarine launched

[USS Idaho: Futuristic nuclear-powered fast attack Navy submarine launched \(msn.com\)](https://www.interestingengineering.com/uss-idaho-futuristic-nuclear-powered-fast-attack-navy-submarine-launched)

Source: YouTube: Dolphin-class Submarines: Israel's Undersea Arsenal

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4n_0b_pg-E

Source: Naval Sea Systems Command: U.S. Navy Launches New Attack Submarine

<https://www.navsea.navy.mil/Media/News/Article-View/Article/3870997/us-navy-launches-new-attack-submarine/>

Source: The Moscow Times: On This Day 24 Years Ago: Russia's Kursk Submarine Disaster

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2024/08/12/on-this-day-24-years-ago-russias-kursk-submarine-disaster-a85994>

Source: Dagen News: Russia Hides Defeat with Wooden Submarine Replica

[Russia Hides Defeat with Wooden Submarine Replica \(msn.com\)](https://www.dagen.com/news/russia-hides-defeat-with-wooden-submarine-replica)

Source: Slash Gear: The US Navy's Submarine Fleet Is Bigger Than You Think

[The US Navy's Submarine Fleet Is Bigger Than You Think \(msn.com\)](https://www.slashgear.com/2024/08/the-us-navys-submarine-fleet-is-bigger-than-you-think/)

Source: MSN.Com: 330 Feet Below: The Incredible Discovery Of The Lost WW2 Submarines | Dive Detectives | Timeline

[330 Feet Below: The Incredible Discovery Of The Lost WW2 Submarines | Dive Detectives | Timeline | Watch \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/330-feet-below-the-incredible-discovery-of-the-lost-ww2-submarines)

Source: Business Insider: An unusual announcement about a US Navy submarine packed with cruise missiles is a loud message that puts Iran on notice

<https://www.businessinsider.com/us-sending-powerful-submarine-middle-east-loud-warning-to-iran-2024-8>

Source: Naval News: China Launches Its Most Sophisticated Submarine to Date

<https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2024/08/china-launches-its-most-sophisticated-submarine-to-date/>

Source: National Interest: The U.S. Navy's Mark 48 Torpedo Should Never Be Questioned

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/the-u-s-navy-s-mark-48-torpedo-should-never-be-questioned/ar-AA1pbd1d?ocid=msedgdhp&pc=U531&cvid=4c28b70751ff4335959bf5a552f164bc&ei=137>

Source: National Interest: Russia Freaked Out: Navy Shows from Sea Ohio-Class 'Missile Truck' Sub as Warning

[Russia Freaked Out: Navy Shows from Sea Ohio-Class 'Missile Truck' Sub as Warning \(msn.com\)](https://www.nationalinterest.org/defense/russia-freaked-out-navy-shows-from-sea-ohio-class-missile-truck-sub-as-warning)

Source: Newsweek: China Quietly Launches Most Advanced Submarine

[China Quietly Launches Most Advanced Submarine \(msn.com\)](https://www.newsweek.com/china-quietly-launches-most-advanced-submarine)

Source: Interesting Engineering: China submarine bests NATO, claims record 18.6-mile underwater transmission

[China submarine bests NATO, claims record 18.6-mile underwater transmission \(msn.com\)](https://www.interestingengineering.com/china-submarine-bests-nato-claims-record-18-6-mile-underwater-transmission)

Source: DVIDS: USS Hawaii (SSN 776) joins USS Emory S. Land (AS 39) in First-ever Nuclear-Powered Attack Submarine Maintenance Availability in Australia

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/479217/uss-hawaii-ssn-776-joins-uss-emory-s-land-39-first-ever-nuclear-powered-attack-submarine-maintenance-availability>

Source: Herald Times Reporter: Manitowoc is home to the most completely restored WWII submarine, the USS Cobia. Here's how it ended up in the city.

<https://www.htrnews.com/story/life/2024/08/22/uss-cobia->

[world-war-ii-submarine-is-docked-in-manitowoc-wisconsin-heres-why/74835941007/](https://www.warhistoryonline.com/world-war-ii-submarine-is-docked-in-manitowoc-wisconsin-heres-why/74835941007/)

Source: National Interest: The U.S. Navy’s Sturgeon-class Submarine: An Experiment Gone Right

[The U.S. Navy’s Sturgeon-class Submarine: An Experiment Gone Right \(msn.com\)](https://www.nationalinterest.org/defense/the-u-s-navy-s-sturgeon-class-submarine-an-experiment-gone-right-145111/)

Source: War History Online: How The USS Thresher (SS-200) Became The Most Decorated American Submarine of World War II

[How The USS Thresher \(SS-200\) Became The Most Decorated American Submarine of World War II \(msn.com\)](https://www.warhistoryonline.com/world-war-ii-submarine-is-docked-in-manitowoc-wisconsin-heres-why/74835941007/)

Source: The Aviationist: Hangars Beneath the Sea: The Submarine Aircraft Carriers

[Hangars Beneath the Sea: The Submarine Aircraft Carriers \(msn.com\)](https://www.theaviationist.com/hangars-beneath-the-sea-the-submarine-aircraft-carriers/)



Source: Source: [U.S. Naval Institute](https://www.usni.org/)

8/17/2024

#OTD in 1958, USS Skate circumnavigated the globe in 50 minutes. To accomplish this remarkable feat, the sub took a shortcut by sailing on a circular course within two miles of the North Pole. The Skate only needed to travel 12 miles to pass through all of the world's time zones.



Source: Fox News: Meet the American who launched modern submarines, John Philip Holland, 'brilliant' self-taught engineer

<https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/meet-american-launched-modern-submarines-080046460.html>

This Month in History

From Shipmate Erik Heter, Base Historian

More than Just Decorations: The USS *Parche* (SSN-683)

If you were to ask an average person to name the most decorated vessel in US Navy history, they would probably guess that it was a ship from World War II. They might assume it was an aircraft carrier, and some may even think it was a WWII submarine. However, in most cases, they would assume it was a vessel that had seen significant combat. Few would guess that the Navy’s most decorated vessel never fired a shot in anger. Yet, it was precisely that—a Cold War submarine, the USS *Parche*—that received the honor of being the US Navy’s most decorated vessel. This distinction was earned through the *Parche*’s service as a special operations boat, carrying out some of the most daring and risky operations ever performed by a submarine.

Commissioned on August 17, 1974, the USS *Parche* was among the last ten boats of the Sturgeon class, referred to as the “637 stretch” because they were ten feet longer than the standard 637 submarines. The *Parche* was initially intended to serve in standard attack submarine roles within the Navy’s fleet. After its first two years as a fleet attack submarine in the Atlantic fleet, the *Parche* was transferred to its new home port in Mare Island, CA.

With the increasing geopolitical tensions of the Cold War between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, the need for intelligence and underwater surveillance capabilities grew, paving the way for the *Parche*’s transformation. Upon its transfer, *Parche* underwent extensive modifications. These modifications included an extension of the hull by another 100 feet to accommodate intelligence-gathering equipment. Such enhancements enabled the *Parche* to perform a wide range of covert tasks beyond those of a conventional attack submarine, making it an ideal underwater platform for intelligence gathering, electronic surveillance, and special operations.

During the Cold War, the USS *Parche* undertook some of the most daring espionage and surveillance missions ever conducted by the US Navy. It was particularly noted for its role in Operation Ivy Bells, a mission that involved tapping undersea communication cables to gather intelligence on Soviet naval activities. These operations were highly classified, shrouded in secrecy for decades, and demonstrated the submarine’s exceptional ability to operate undetected in hostile waters. The operations were also wildly successful, allowing the US to eavesdrop on unencrypted communications by the Soviet Military.

In one notable cable-tapping mission, the *Parche* traveled to the Barents Sea from Mare Island by heading south through the Pacific, rounding Cape Horn at the tip of South America, and then traveling north through the Atlantic to the cable location in the Barents. Dubbed “Odyssey ‘82” by the *Parche*’s crew, the mission covered 15,000 nautical miles each way, entirely underwater. All told, the *Parche* spent 137 days at sea on this particular mission.

Throughout its service, the USS *Parche* achieved numerous accolades, making it the most decorated vessel in US Navy history. These awards included nine Presidential Unit Citations, ten Navy Unit Commendations, fifteen Navy Battle “E” awards, and thirteen Expeditionary Medals—a record that remains unparalleled to this day.

The *Parche*'s renown extended beyond its operational achievements, as the boat became a testing ground for several technological innovations. It was equipped with advanced sonar and electronic warfare systems that allowed it to execute its missions with precision and stealth. The submarine pioneered several techniques in undersea operations, including advanced eavesdropping and reconnaissance methods that set the standard for future special missions submarines. These advancements have had a lasting impact on submarine design and operations for subsequent vessels and classes.

After the Cold War, the *Parche* continued to serve with distinction, adapting to new threats and challenges in the evolving geopolitical landscape. It remained an invaluable asset in gathering intelligence and conducting special operations, contributing to national security even after the fall of the Soviet Union. The submarine carried out several missions in the 1990s and early 2000s, maintaining its relevance in an era marked by shifting strategic priorities. In addition to intelligence-gathering operations, the *Parche* also engaged in mapping and object recovery missions, supported the deployment of Special Forces such as Navy SEALs, and participated in the evaluation and testing of new submarine technologies.

Despite what we know, much of the *Parche*'s service remains shrouded in secrecy. Still, the submarine has been honored in various ways. Its sail is on display at the Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport, Washington, serving as a reminder of the submarine and the men who served aboard her. Recognition of some of the *Parche*'s exploits is chronicled in books such as *Blind Man's Bluff* by Sherry Sontag and Christopher Drew. Although the full extent of the *Parche*'s operations is likely never to be fully disclosed, the submarine's place in naval history is firmly secured.

The history of the USS *Parche* (SSN-683) is a testament to innovation, bravery, and exceptional service. It further proves that such bravery and exceptional service can be demonstrated without engaging in actual combat. The *Parche* remains a symbol of the Navy's ability to adapt and innovate, executing complex and dangerous missions in the most challenging environments. Remembering and honoring the *Parche* and its crew ensures that their extraordinary achievements will not be forgotten.



How We Earned Our Dolphins

(Ed., Copied from "The Periscope," newsletter from the USSVI L.A. - Pasadena Base, August 2024)

by Anonymous

Here's to us, one and all
Who heard the message and answered the call
To break away from the old mainstream
And live our lives on a submarine.

September 2024

Submarine School gave us the chance to pass the test
To declare that we were
The Best of the Best.
When we left Fort Blockhouse with orders in hand
Some headed out for distant faraway Scotland.
Some went East Coast some went West
But no matter where you ended up,
your first boat's the best.
You reported on board not knowing how it would be
And now you're known to all
as a worthless part three.
You learn about Tradition and learn about Pride,
You learn about Honor and the men who've died,
You learn about the heritage passed on to you
Because now you're considered one of the crew.
You study that boat from bow to stern
From the conning tower to the bilges,
it's your duty to learn
Where and what makes that boat go,
How it operates and in what direction the flow
How to charge those batteries and keep them alive
Or how to rig the boat for dive
Draw those systems fore and aft,
Blow the sh*tters, Check the draft
These are duties that you must glean
When you live your life on a submarine
When you've learned all there is to
know about your boat
You show 'em you know it by your walk-through vote
You go before the Board, part three book in hand
Where they question and grill you to beat the band
And when you think you can take no more
They tell you to wait just outside the door.
For what seems like eons, Time stands still
And when they call you in, you feel quite ill!
But they congratulate you for doing so good
And welcome you into their Brotherhood.
Rite of passage declares that you
must drink your "fish."
And the large glass of 'neaters' is not
something you wish
But you wear those dolphins on your chest with pride
Because down deep in your heart, you know you're Quali-
fied.
It seems like yesterday, it seems like a dream
That I truly lived on a submarine
Most Boats are gone, a memory of time
I wonder what happened to those crew mates of mine?
The Old Boats that are left, all are museums
And even if you sailed 'em,
you pay admission to see 'em.
So, here's to us, those who remember
Who rode the boats out in all kinds of weather
To those past, present and even the future
To those young, hardy lads who still seek adventure
So, let's lift our glasses and have a toast
To the memory of those daring young matelots
and their undersea boats.

Page 14

10 Lessons I Want to Instill in My Kids

If you made a mistake, apologize.
If you're thankful, show it.
If you're confused, ask questions.
If you learn something, teach others.
If you're stuck, ask for help.
If you're wrong, fess up.
If you love someone, tell them.
If you trip, get back up.
If someone needs help, help them.
If you see wrong, take a stance.

Raising Teens Today

THE THREE SIDES OF A MILITARY VETERAN

1. THE QUIET SIDE
2. THE FUN AND CRAZY SIDE
☆☆☆ 3. THE SIDE ☆☆☆
YOU NEVER WANT TO SEE.

The Arrow and the Song

BY HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

I shot an arrow into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;
For, so swiftly it flew, the sight
Could not follow it in its flight.

I breathed a song into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;
For who has sight so keen and strong,
That it can follow the flight of song?

Long, long afterward, in an oak
I found the arrow, still unbroke;
And the song, from beginning to end,
I found again in the heart of a friend.



Favorite Animal

Our teacher asked what my favorite animal was, and I said, "Fried chicken."

She said I wasn't funny, but she couldn't have been right, because everyone else laughed.

My parents told me to always tell the truth. I did. Fried chicken is my favorite animal.

I told my dad what happened, and he said my teacher was probably a member of PETA. He said they love animalsvery much.

I do, too. Especially chicken, pork and beef. Anyway, my teacher sent me to the principal's office.

I told him what happened, and he laughed, too. Then he told me not to do it again.

The next day in class my teacher asked me what my favorite live animal was.

I told her it was chicken. She asked me why, so I told her it was because you could make them into fried chicken.

She sent me back to the principal's office. He laughed, and told me not to do it again.

I don't understand. My parents taught me to be honest, but my teacher doesn't like it when I am.

Today, my teacher asked me to tell her what famous person I admired most.

I told her, "Colonel Sanders." (KFC Fonder) Guess where I am now..

Optical Illusion IQ Test: Only High IQ Can Spot The Submarine In 5 Seconds!

<https://www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/optical-illusion-iq-test-spot-the-submarine-1722421577-1>

See the answer at the back of the N/L.

Python

I saw a snake that was 3.14 meters long.

I think it was a π thon.

Running into stationary objects can be painful, according to a recent pole.



Dad Jokes

"How did the pasta get locked out of his house?" -*Gnocchi.*

"Why did the old man fall down the well?" -*He couldn't see that well.*

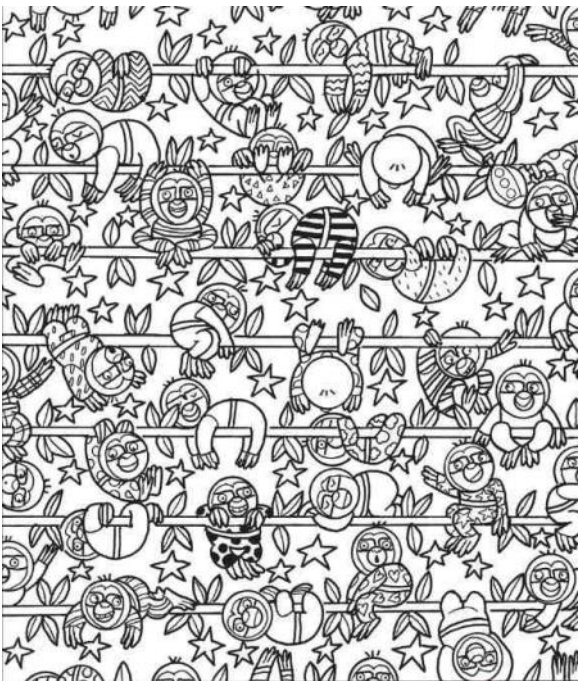
"Why are fish so smart? -*They live in schools!*"

"What do you call a happy cowboy?" -*A Jolly Rancher.*

"What do you give the dentist of the year?" -*A little plaque!*



Can you find the Submarine?



Answer on the next page.

