



THE DECK LOG

USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE

AUGUST 2025
VOLUME XIV - ISSUE 8



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 Loss of USS Bullhead (SS 332)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Bullhead

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 anti-submarine attacks. Bullhead was the last boat lost in WWII.

Specifications:

Class: **Balao**

Laid Down: **10/21/1943**

Launched: **7/16/1944**

Commissioned: **12/4/1944**

Lost: **8/6/1945**

Builder: **Electric Boat Company**

Length: **311'9"**, Beam: **27' 3"**

Complement: Officers: **10**, Enlisted: **70**



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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://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



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/>



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>



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



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



www.navyleague.org



www.moaa.org



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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

THE SAILOR'S CREED

I am a United States Sailor.

*I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America
and I will obey the orders of those appointed over me.*

*I represent the fighting spirit of the Navy and those who have gone before
me to defend freedom and democracy around the world.*

*I proudly serve my country's Navy combat team with Honor, Courage and
Commitment.*

I am committed to excellence and the fair treatment of all.

[The Sailor's Creed \(navy.mil\)](https://www.navy.mil/)

SILENT RUNNING

AUGUST 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 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.



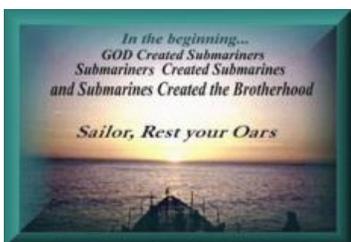
USS Cochino (SS 345)

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.





USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE NEWS

BASE COMMANDER'S REPORT



Howdy Shipmates,

It wasn't until I received the email from Georgetown VFW Post's Senior Vice Commander John McCleskey outlining the details of 1st Lt. Charles "Woody" McCook return home that I felt the urge to dive a little deeper into what MIA can mean to various people. This is the first time I've personally ever heard of an MIA soldier being brought home. For me, I grew up reading *The Unknown Soldier* comics not really understanding what they meant. I went to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in high school and thought it was super cool to see these guys marching nonstop in front of some marble crypt, I've always appreciated seeing the POW/MIA flag fly, and most recently seeing the small unoccupied set table at the back of the Georgetown VFW after joining the CTB Submarine Veterans group. I have a few family members that were/are alive when I was old enough to learn about and start asking questions about their time in combat during the Korean and Vietnam Wars. None of them would or will talk about it to this day. None of them would step foot in a VFW or American Legion post so I didn't understand what the small table meant or the true significance of POW/MIA. I've never really heard submariners talk about MIA, just *On Eternal Patrol*. So, here's my deeper dive into what MIA may mean to some.

The POW/MIA table, also known as the Missing Man Table or Remembrance Table, is a powerful ceremonial display that honors prisoner of war (POWs) and those missing in action (MIAs). It serves as a solemn reminder of their sacrifice, courage, and the uncertainty surrounding their fates. Commonly seen at military events, veterans' halls, and memorial ceremonies—especially on Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and National POW/MIA Recognition Day—the table is carefully set with symbolic items, each representing a different aspect of the experience and memory of missing or captured service members.

The table itself is round, symbolizing everlasting concern for the missing. A white tablecloth covers it, representing the purity of their motives when answering the call to serve. A single red rose in a vase stands for the blood they shed and the loved ones who await their return, while a yellow ribbon tied around the vase reflects hope and the nation's determination to find them. A slice of lemon on the bread plate symbolizes the bitterness of their fate, and salt sprinkled on the plate represents the countless tears shed by families and comrades. An in-

verted glass shows that the missing cannot join in a toast, and the empty chair is a stark symbol of their absence. In some versions, a Bible is included to signify the strength found through faith, and a lit candle serves as a beacon of hope and a guide home.

Altogether, the POW/MIA table is more than a tradition—it is a visual expression of remembrance and respect. It educates others, honors the missing, and ensures that their memory is kept alive. By setting this table, we acknowledge their absence while reaffirming our collective commitment: they are not forgotten.

Honoring the return of Missing in Action (MIA) soldiers is deeply important for moral, emotional, and societal reasons. These individuals made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country, often giving their lives without recognition or closure. Acknowledging their return is a powerful way to show respect for that sacrifice and to reaffirm that no service member is forgotten. For the families of MIAs, this act provides long-awaited closure. Living for years or even decades without knowing the fate of a loved one causes immense pain; the return of remains allows for grieving, proper burials, and a sense of peace that uncertainty could never offer.

On a broader scale, honoring MIAs reflects a nation's values. It sends a clear message that the country stands by those who serve, even long after the battles have ended. This commitment demonstrates integrity and reinforces the idea that every individual who wears the uniform matters. Additionally, the process of identifying and returning MIAs often involves historical research and forensic science, helping to illuminate forgotten moments in history and preserving truth for future generations.

There is also a deep moral responsibility involved. Returning MIA soldiers to their homeland is not just a military duty but a human one—an acknowledgment of their dignity in death. Beyond the personal and national impact, these returns can also serve as moments of collective healing. They bring communities together in shared remembrance and gratitude, offering a chance to reflect on the cost of freedom. In the end, honoring MIAs is not just about recovering remains—it is about recovering our sense of duty, compassion, and shared humanity.

For me, I not only consider it a great honor, but my duty, to attend this Homecoming for 1st Lt. McCook.

Your shipmate, brother & friend,

Curt Webber, curt.webber@gmail.com, (317)225-1823



USSVI Central Texas Base Meeting Minutes



Location: VFW Post 8587, Georgetown, TX

Meeting Opened: At 19:00 by Curt Webber, Base Commander

E-Board Present: All with the exception of Yeoman David Clark, with Frank Abernathy acting as Yeoman

Meeting Minutes: May 2025 Meeting Minutes were accepted.

Sailing List: 21 Members at VFW and 1 Visitor at VFW

Binnacle List: Jack Collins

Prayer: Bob Steinmann delivered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Curt Webber led the Base.

Tolling of three Boats for July: Curt Webber, Reading, Chuck Malone, Tolling

Officer and Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Chris Glover

Funds as of 1 July 2025

\$23,891.90 1 June 2025 Balance
\$23,718.73 1 July 2025 Balance
General Fund: \$19,992.34
Memorial Fund: \$3,726.39

Memorial (Gene Hall): Gene has paint available for upkeep of the memorial. Ray Wilgeroth requested a status update on the design, layout, cost and implementation to replace the nameplates of Lost Boats.

Kaps 4 Kids (Ken Rydolph): Ken is taking turnover from Rick Mitchell.

Parade (Tom Sprague): The Round Rock 4th of July Parade was canceled due to weather conditions.

Membership (Rick Mitchell): 87 Current Members, 54 National Life Members, 54 Base Life Members and 42 Holland Club Members

Welcome Aboard: No new members

Birthdays July 2025: 7/8 Rick Mitchell, 7/9 Joe Kruppa, 7/12 James Gee, 7/16 Chuck Trahan and 7/24 Don McGriff

Unfinished, Ongoing and Old Business

Recent Event: The June Social was held on Saturday, 21 June 2025 at Mesa Rosa in Round Rock.

USSVI 2025 National Convention: Scheduled for August 31 – September 6, 2025 in Orlando, Florida. The Plan of the Week is available on the web at subvetconvention.com. Curt Webber and Rick Mitchel are planning on attending.

NEW Business:

30 Year Base Pin: Ray Wilgeroth was presented the 30-Year Membership pin by Curt Webber. Ray was one of the founding members of Central Texas Base.



USSVI Charitable Foundation: Frank Espinosa presented information on the General Funds section, which included the Fund Chairman Randy Stein, purpose of accepting general donations to the Charitable Foundation, and how to donate online at www.ussvcf.org or by check for fully tax deductible donations to the certified 501(c)3 charitable organization. The 31 March 2025 balance was \$28,018 and increased to \$125,231 as of 30 June 2025.

Welcome Home for Missing In Action Hero: First Lieutenant Charles Woodrow "Woody" McCook will be reinterned on Saturday, 2 August 2025, The procession will depart VFW Post 8587 at 1015, proceeding down College Street, entering the Square on 8th Street, around the Courthouse Square before heading up Highway 29 Southwestern Boulevard.

The procession will traverse the Southwestern University where Woody graduated from before ending at the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) Cemetery for a Gravesite Ceremony. The Falcon Flight Formation Team will do a flyover "Missing Man Formation" followed by a flyover of the Devil Dog Squadron B-25. The US Army is conducting the full honors at the gravesite.

The VFW will be handing out flags on the Square to greet Woody with a Sea of Red, White and Blue. Georgetown Native Woody McCook was in a B25 shot down over Burma in 1943 during World War II and had been listed as Missing In Action until recently. He is the only Georgetown resident to be listed as Missing In Action. Veterans and community members are highly encouraged to attend and show Woody the Honor and Respect he deserves for his sacrifice. [For more information, see VFW 8587 website VFW8587GTX.WIXSITE.COM.]

Fund Raising and Fields of Honor: Rick Mitchell will send out more information.

Good of the Order:

50/50 Raffle: \$40 of \$80 was won by Rick Mitchell, which he donated back to the Base.

Next Regular Meeting: 20 August 2025 for 18:00 Social and 19:00 Meeting at VFW Post 8587, Georgetown

Sailing List Summary:

Total Base Members Present: 21

Local at VFW Post 8587: 19 Members; Frank Abernathy, Doug Binenti, Harry Boyer, Ed Carr III, Ken Dallman, Frank Espinosa, Chris Glover, Charles Goertz, Gene Hall, Hubert Jackson, Chuck Malone, Dale Messing, Rick Mitchell, Ken Rydolph, Bill Scott II, Bob Steinmann, Curt Webber, Ray Wilgeroth and Vern Williams.

Remote on Zoom: 2 Members; Jack Odom, Harry Ullmann, Jr.

Visitors: 1 Visitor; Jim Pax, Nuc ET(SS), SSN-605 USS Jack

Meeting Adjourned: At ~20:00 by Base Commander Curt Webber

Minutes Submitted: 22 July 2025 by Yeoman Dave Clark, using information from Contributing Members Frank Abernathy and Rick Mitchell



RBFCU Checking (Gen Fund) \$19,992.34
RBFCU Savings (Mem Fund) \$3,726.39
Uncleared Checks - -\$0.00

Ending Balance - 6/30/2025 - \$23,718.73

Submitted: Chris Glover, Treasurer

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. Chuck Trahan, broken femur and amputated right leg from a fall, Don Atkins and Jack Collins dealing with the big C added to the Binnacle list.

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.

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

AUGUST 2025 BIRTHDAYS



Garrett Onderdonk III - 12th
Hubert Jackson - 18th
Virgil Claycamp - 27th
Jack Bellinoff - 21st
Doug Binenti - 29th

CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MEMBERSHIP

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

Members listed in Central Texas Database	88
Regular Annual Members	25
National Life Members	54
Base Life Members	60
Holland Club Members	42
Associate Members	1
Dual Members	5
Prospective Members:	0
War Veterans	74
Members pending:	0
Submitted: Rick Mitchell, Membership	

BASE TREASURER'S REPORT

15 June 2025

Financial Report for Period Ending 6/30/2025

Beginning Balance - 6/1/2025 - \$23,891.90

2 August 2025, 1015, VFW Post 8587, Georgetown, TX, Welcome home for First Lt Charles Woodrow "Woody" McCook.

20 August 2025, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587 and Zoom, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1800 Social hour, 1900 meeting.

31 August - September 6 2025, 2025 USSVI National Convention, Rosen Shingle Creek Resort, 9939 Universal Blvd, Orlando, FL 32819,

20 September 2025, Quarterly Social, TBD

15 October 2025, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587 and Zoom, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1800 Social hour, 1900 meeting.

19 November 2025, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587 and Zoom, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1800 Social hour, 1900 meeting.

20 December 2025, Annual Christmas Party/Social, Details TBD



Kap(SS)4Kid(SS) Update

From your editor: There is no update this month. The turnover from Rick is in the works to Ken Rydolph.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Shipmates,

An email from Shipmate Ken Dallman and his wife Jackie.

Hi Rick,

I've finally gotten around to cleaning out some of those bulging files I've ignored for too long. I found the article below that I had saved regarding veterans. We've lost many friends these past couple of years, so the article hit home. Perhaps, you might post in an upcoming newsletter if you deem appropriate.

Regards,

Jackie & Ken Dallman

A Veteran Died Today

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast, and he sat around the Legion, telling stories of the past. Of a war that he had fought in and the deeds that he had done. In his exploits with his buddies, they were heroes, everyone. And though sometimes, to his neighbors, his tales became a joke, all his buddies listened, for they know whereof he spoke. But we'll hear his tales no longer; for 'ol Bob has passed away, and the world's a little poorer, for a **VETERAN** died today.

No, he won't be mourned by many, just his children and his wife. For he lived an ordinary, very quiet sort of life. He held a job and raised a family, quietly going on his way; and the world won't note his passing; though a **VETERAN** died today.

When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state, while thousands note their passing and proclaim that they were great. Papers tell of their life stories, from the time that they were young, but the passing of a **VETERAN** goes unnoticed, and unsung.

The politician's stipend and the style in which he/she lives, are sometimes disproportionate to the service that he/she gives. While the ordinary **VETERAN** who offered up his all, is paid off with a medal and perhaps a pension, small. It's so easy to forget them, for it is so long ago that our Bobs and Jims and Johnnys, went to battle, but we know. It was not the politicians, with their compromise and ploys, who won for us the freedom that our Country now enjoys. Should you find yourself in danger, with your enemies at hand, would you really want a politician, with their waffling stand? Or would you want a **VETERAN**, who has sworn to defend his home, his kin and Country, and would fight to the end?

He was just a common **VETERAN** and his ranks are growing thin, but his presence should remind us, we may need his likes again. For when countries are in conflict, then we find the Military's part is to clean up the mess that the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor while he's here to hear the praise, then at least let's give him homage at the ending of his days. Perhaps just a simple headline in the paper that might say ... **OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING, FOR A VETERAN DIED TODAY.**

Author unknown



CTB Shipmates in Action

Bucks for the Brave 2025

Rick Mitchell - 7/23/2025

Shipmates,

Received this email from Ken and Jackie Dallman whose daughter created this event ten years ago.

BUCKS FOR THE BRAVE IS OPEN - go to the website and **nominate someone.**

BUCKS FOR THE BRAVE: This contest allows you to nominate Veterans (no longer serving) and retired First Responders to win the hunting experience of a lifetime. Nominate A Hero Today

WHAT WE ARE DOING: Bucks for the Brave is a platform to show respect, offer thanks, recognize and reward these true American heroes.

You can nominate someone here: <http://www.trinityoaks.org>

Each year the event runs between Jul 4 and Sept 11th, and in the end eight veterans are chosen - one from each branch of the military and one from each branch of first responders. The event is held at Trinity Oaks Ranch, a 501C Purple Heart Ranch, and she has sponsors such as Record Rack Feed (Jodi created brand under Cargill), Cavenders, Wrangler and many more; she has celebrity entertainment, etc.; event is all supported by volunteers. Totally non-profit. We're quite proud of her and what she does for veterans.

So many heart-warming stories told by the winners around campfire. There's more about it on the website <http://www.trinityoaks.org>

r/, Rick Mitchell
512-639-0035

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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? Still keepin' busy juggling "The Deck Log" publication—what else is new?! Stop by my email (hscottss242@gmail.com) and say hello sometime. Or make yourself useful and send me a Sea Story or two, huh? The Editor is often guilty of plagiarizing anything he reads that he likes. Please also feel free to copy anything you like, but if he gets into trouble, so will you.



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NATIONAL ALL-HANDS BULLETINS

Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation Newsletter for July 2025

USSVI Technology
Inc. ussviwebsitequestions@231236066.mailchimpapp.com
7/17/2025

VSO August 2025 Newsletter and Convention Handout

USSVI Technology
Inc. ussviwebsitequestions@231236066.mailchimpapp.com
7/25/2025

As a courtesy to the USSVI VSO, John Dudas, I'm including the lead-in to his VSO National bulletin for August.

r/, Your Editor.

2025 USSVI Convention VA Handout

If you attend the convention in Orlando, please print a copy of this to use at the VA presentation. It is also a great listing of the major questions raised about VA benefits over the past few years that I have covered with all our submarine

August 2025

veterans and widows many times over. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Convention. John Dudas USSVI National Veterans Service Officer.

<https://app.box.com/s/n0u4pgkwapzjyh9dj3em65r83ss9aaus>

From your "The Deck Log" Editor.

The above noted National Bulletins from the USSVCF Vice-President and Executive Director, George Palmer, and the USSVI Veterans Service Officer, John Dudas will no longer be published in their entirety in "The Deck Log," as they are distributed directly to the membership. If you would like to continue seeing the monthly USSVCF and VSO National Bulletins published in the newsletter in their entirety, please contact me at hscottss242@gmail.com.

Respectfully,
Harold W (Bill) Scott II

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NATIONAL ALL-HANDS BULLETIN

Only 8 weeks until the Nat. Convention - register now

USSVI Technology
Inc. ussviwebsitequestions@231236066.mailchimpapp.com
7/9/2025

2025 National Convention Update

Shipmates,

Subject: Only 8 Weeks Until the 2025 USSVI National Convention – Register Today!

Dear Fellow USSVI Members,

As Chairman of the 2025 USSVI National Convention, I am writing to remind you that our much-anticipated event is just 8 weeks away. The convention will be held from August 31 through September 6, at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando, FL and we are looking forward to welcoming you all for a memorable week of camaraderie, celebration, and connection.

To help us plan - and to secure your accommodation, now is the time to act if you plan to attend. Early registration not only helps us better prepare but also guarantees your place at all the events and activities you wish to participate in.

Please also remember to reserve your hotel room at your earliest convenience. All necessary information and forms for the convention and a direct link to the hotel reservation page can be found on our website at:

[USSVI National Convention 2025.](#)

The hotel's room reservation site went down last week, but that problem has been resolved, and I am asking you to try again if you have had previous problems.

Your timely action is greatly appreciated and will help us make this convention great.

Thank you for your attention and support. I look forward to seeing you in just a few short weeks!

Warm regards,

Bob Eichelberger and Jay Mack,
2025 USSVI National Convention Co-Chairs

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GEDUNK (SUBMARINE NEWS) FROM THE NET

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Reproduced from the Glass Almanac website. China's new 12,125-ton submarine raises alarms: this massive underwater beast with forward torpedoes could change the global naval power balance

<https://glassalmanac.com/chinas-new-12125-ton-submarine-raises-alarms-this-massive-underwater-beast-with-forward-torpedoes-could-change-the-global-naval-power-balance/>

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Reproduced from the 19FortyFive website. Limitless Upgrades: The Navy's Virginia Class Submarine Has a Secret Weapon

<https://www.19fortyfive.com/2025/05/limitless-upgrades-the-navys-virginia-class-submarine-has-a-secret-weapon/>

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Reproduced from the Maritime Executive website. Russian Attack Sub Surfaces Right Next to French Trawler off Brittany

<https://maritime-executive.com/article/russian-attack-sub-surfaces-right-next-to-french-trawler-off-brittany>

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Reproduced from the Newsweek.com website. Photos Show US Submarine Loading Cruise Missiles at Front-line Pacific Base

<https://www.newsweek.com/us-news-navy-submarine-loads-tomahawk-missiles-guam-2093994>

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Reproduced from the The Maritime Executive website. China is Preparing to Counter U.S. Submarine Surveillance System

<https://maritime-executive.com/editorials/china-is-preparing-to-counter-u-s-submarine-surveillance-system>

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Reproduced from the Global Defense News website. US Navy increases stealth patrol readiness with new Block IV Virginia-class submarine USS Arkansas

<https://armyrecognition.com/news/navy-news/2025/us-navy-increases-stealth-patrol-readiness-with-new-block-iv-virginia-class-submarine-uss-arkansas>

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[The U.S. Navy's Attack Submarine 'Nightmare' Is Getting Serious](#)

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Reproduced from the Visegrad Post website. "They Built It to Hunt and Kill Us": Chinese Navy Fears the Ruthless Precision of America's New Virginia Block V Submarine

<https://visegradpost.com/en/2025/07/06/they-built-it-to-hunt-and-kill-us-chinese-navy-fears-the-ruthless-precision-of-americas-new-virginia-block-v-submarine/>

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Reproduced from the PhillyVoice website. Navy Yard gets \$100 million investment to ramp up submarine manufacturing

<https://www.phillyvoice.com/navy-yard-south-philly-submarine-manufacturing-rhoads-industries-jobs/>

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Reproduced from the The War Zone website. Navy Cancels Nuclear Submarine Torpedo Tube-Launched and Recovered Underwater Drone

<https://www.twz.com/sea/navy-cancels-nuclear-submarine-torpedo-tube-launched-and-recovered-underwater-drone>

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Reproduced from the Facebook website. Breaking News: US Navy orders third Columbia-class ballistic missile submarine USS Groton to modernize nuclear deterrence.

<https://armyrecognition.com/news/navy-news/2025/breaking-news-us-navy-orders-third-columbia-class-ballistic-missile-submarine-uss-groton-to-modernize-nuclear-deterrence>

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Reproduced from the Newsweek website. Nuclear-armed US submarine surfaces near Europe

[Nuclear-armed US submarine surfaces near Europe](#)

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Reproduced from the Business Insider website. A US Navy nuclear-powered attack submarine just made an unprecedented stop. A top admiral says it sent a message.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/us-navy-attack-submarine-sends-message-to-foes-stop-2025-7>

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Reproduced from the Global Defense News website. Breaking News: US Navy funds first Block VI Virginia-class submarines with hypersonic strike capability

<https://armyrecognition.com/news/navy-news/2025/breaking-news-us-navy-funds-first-block-vi-virginia-class-submarines-with-hypersonic-strike-capability>

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Summed Up in 4 Words

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Built to Fight NATO

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Reproduced from the *Sustainability Times* website. **"They Can See Us Even in Silence": China's New Magnetic Wake Tech Shatters Submarine Stealth in Shallow Waters Like the Taiwan Strait**

<https://www.sustainability-times.com/research/they-can-see-us-even-in-silence-chinas-new-magnetic-wake-tech-shatters-submarine-stealth-in-shallow-waters-like-the-taiwan-strait/>

Reproduced from the *United 24* website. **Two Years Later, North Korea's "Nuclear Submarine" Still Can't Find the Ocean**

<https://united24media.com/latest-news/two-years-later-north-koreas-nuclear-submarine-still-cant-find-the-ocean-10036>

Reproduced from the *Daily Aviation* website. **Gigantic \$2 Billion US Submarine Gets Stuck in Ice**

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Reproduced from the *National Interest* website. **How submarines are resupplied after being 800 feet below the ocean surface is fascinating**

<https://supercarblondie.com/how-are-submarines-supplied-helicopters-drones/>

Reproduced from the *Stars & Stripes* website. **Navy announces \$250M expansion, upgrade to West Coast submarine base**

<https://www.stripes.com/branches/navy/2025-07-23/kitsap-bangor-upgrade-submarines-18530476.html>

Reproduced from the *Military Watch Magazine* website. **160 Nukes Onboard: Russian Navy Commissions New Borei-A Class Strategic Submarine**

<https://militarywatchmagazine.com/article/160-nukes-russian-navy-boreia-submarine>



Ed. Restarting the monthly history submarine related postings from the Naval History and Heritage Command.

Naval History and Heritage Command

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

8/3/1958 - The nuclear-powered submarine [Nautilus \(SSN-571\)](#) becomes the first ship to reach the [North Pole](#), reaching the pole while submerged under the polar ice cap.

8/3/1970 - The fleet ballistic missile submarine [James Madison \(SSBN-627\)](#), the first ship converted to operate the [Poseidon C-3](#), conducts the first submerged launch of that missile off Cape Kennedy, Florida.

8/11/1958 - As part of an exploratory voyage to the Arctic region of the globe, the nuclear-powered [Skate \(SNN-578\)](#) becomes the first submarine to surface at the North Pole when its sail breaks through the ice.

8/17/1942 - The submarines [Nautilus \(SS-168\)](#) and [Argonaut \(SS-166\)](#) land Marines of the 2nd Raider Battalion on Makin in the Gilbert Islands. As the Marines destroy Japanese installations, they are supported by fire from the deck gun of [Nautilus](#). The two submarines withdraw the Marines the following day.

8/17/1968 - [Dolphin \(AGSS-555\)](#), the Navy's only operational, diesel-electric, deep-diving, research and development submarine, is commissioned. Capable of support missions such as acoustic deep-water and littoral research, near-bottom and ocean surveys, weapons launches, sensor trials, and engineering evaluations, it was decommissioned in 2007. Its 38 year career was the longest for a [U.S. Navy submarine](#) to that point.

8/18/1944 - In an attack on a Japanese convoy in the waters off Luzon, Philippines, the submarine [Rasher \(SS-269\)](#) sinks four ships and damages a fifth.

8/31/1944 - Carrier aircraft from flattops of Task Group 38.4, under Rear Admiral Ralph E. Davison, attack Iwo Jima and Chichi Jima, Japan. On 2 September, a TBM Avenger of VT-51 from the light carrier [San Jacinto \(CVL-30\)](#) is shot down over Chichi Jima. The pilot, Lieutenant (j.g.) [George H. W. Bush](#), successfully parachutes from his aircraft and is subsequently rescued by the submarine [Finback \(SS-230\)](#). Bush eventually becomes the 41st President of the United States. (31 August–2 September)

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Thames River Heritage Park

"In Our Nation's Defense" Historic Boat Tour

Historical boat tours bring the Thames River to life with a passionate docent leading the way. Hop on and learn something new about this storied waterway or sit back and catch the breeze.

Guests of all ages are welcome on this excursion. Pack a cooler with your favorite beverages and snacks, grab your people and cruise!

In Our Nation's Defense. Military Stories on the Thames:

From the Revolution to modern Submarine Warfare, the Thames River has played an important role in our nation's defense. Join us on a tour of a Revolutionary battle site, a view of the Coast Guard Academy and Submarine Base

New London. See where submarines are built, learn about Benedict Arnold's betrayal of our colonial militia and the subsequent burning of New London and how this region became the Submarine Capital of the World.

Historic Boat Tours occur Friday-Sunday. Save \$5 when you purchase your tour tickets in advance.

This tour departs out of the Nautilus Pier located at the Submarine Force Museum in Groton, CT



Questions: 860-407-5655

thamesriverheritagepark.org

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[Go US Navy](#) ·

7/21/2025

Kamehameha (SSN-642) conducting emergency blow test at Mare Island on 11 October 1965.



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Reproduced from the Dark Seas website. The Mysterious Nazi Submarine Found Off the U.S. Coast

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Reproduced from the Mustard website. I-400 The Underwater Aircraft Carrier's Secrets Revealed

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[Inside the Typhoon Class Submarine: The Biggest Nuclear Submarine in History | Watch](#)

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Reproduced from the Waterline Stories website. 4 Possible Explanations for the USS Scorpion Disaster

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Reproduced from the Business Insider website. Take a look inside the German submarine captured by the US during WWII

<https://www.businessinsider.com/german-submarine-captured-by-the-us-during-wwii-2025-7>

Reproduced from the Newsweek website. US sends nuclear submarine to Pacific Fleet amid China threat

[US sends nuclear submarine to Pacific Fleet amid China threat](#)

Reproduced from the National Interest website. What Was The Worst Nuclear Submarine Accident To Happen At Sea?

[What Was The Worst Nuclear Submarine Accident To Happen At Sea?](#)

This Month in History

From Shipmate Erik Heter, Base Historian

From Failure to Fearsome: The Evolution of the American Torpedo in WWII

The torpedo served as the indispensable offensive weapon for U.S. submarines in World War II, fundamentally shaping naval strategy in the Pacific. Its effectiveness was paramount to achieving strategic objectives, from disrupting

vital Japanese supply lines to engaging enemy warships. Despite its critical role, the U.S. Navy's primary submarine torpedo, the Mark 14, was plagued by a protracted and frustrating period of unreliability, famously dubbed the "Torpedo Scandal," which severely hampered early war efforts. This saga offers enduring lessons on the complexities of military technology development and the profound impact of institutional challenges on combat effectiveness.

The United States Navy primarily relied on two main types of torpedoes for its submarines during World War II: the Mark 14 and the Mark 18. The Mark 14 torpedo was the U.S. Navy's standard submarine-launched anti-ship torpedo, designed in 1931 by the Naval Torpedo Station in Newport, Rhode Island. It was a formidable weapon on paper, measuring 20 feet 6 inches in length, with a mass of 3,000 pounds, and capable of an effective firing range of 4,500 yards at 46 knots or 9,000 yards at 31 knots. Its warhead initially used TNT, later upgraded to Torpex, and featured both contact and a sophisticated Mark 6 magnetic influence exploder. An astonishingly expensive weapon for its time, costing approximately \$10,000 in 1931 (equivalent to about \$207,000 in 2024), approximately 13,000 units were built between 1942 and 1945.

From December 1941 to November 1943, the Mark 14 was crippled by numerous technical problems, leading to the infamous "Torpedo Scandal." The torpedo suffered from critical flaws in all three of its control mechanisms: depth control, magnetic exploder, and contact exploder. Firstly, torpedoes consistently ran about 10-11 feet deeper than their set depth, often passing harmlessly beneath targets. This issue stemmed from a depth sensor designed for slower torpedoes, which at the Mark 14's higher speeds, registered lower pressure, causing the torpedo to compensate by driving deeper.

Secondly, the faulty Mark 6 magnetic exploder was a significant source of frustration, often causing premature detonations or failing to detonate at all. The extreme secrecy surrounding its design meant submariners received it with almost no service experience, exacerbating the problem. Thirdly, when the magnetic exploder was eventually disabled, problems with the contact exploder became starkly apparent, frequently failing to detonate the warhead upon direct impact, resulting in "duds." Investigations revealed that the firing pin was either too heavy or too weak, bending on impact at the Mark 14's higher speeds and preventing proper detonation.

These failures had dramatic consequences for early U.S. submarine operations. The USS *Tinosa* incident in July 1943 stands as a stark example: the submarine fired fifteen torpedoes at a high-value Japanese oil tanker, with twelve observed hits, yet only one exploded. Similarly, Lieutenant Commander Frederick Warder of USS *Seawolf* fired four Mark 14s at a stationary Japanese transport, all of which failed, forcing him to use older Mark 10s to sink the target. The constant failures devastated morale among submariners, who felt they were fighting with "dummy rifles." By mid-1942, more than 800 torpedoes had been used in the Pacific, with a staggering 80% failing to function as intended. The unreliability also led to the tragic loss of at least two U.S. submarines due to self-torpedoing, where the weapon circled back after a faulty launch.

The path to resolving the Mark 14's reliability issues was

prolonged by significant bureaucratic obstruction within the U.S. Navy. The powerful Bureau of Ordnance (BuOrd), which designed the Mark 14, initially resisted acknowledging and correcting the problems, insisting that the unsatisfactory performance was due to the incompetence and inexperience of submarine commanders and crews, rather than design flaws. This "vicious bureaucratic war" between the fleet and the ordnance establishment significantly delayed the identification and correction of issues. BuOrd's direct reporting line to Congress granted it substantial autonomy, making it difficult for even high-ranking admirals to exert direct authority over its decisions.

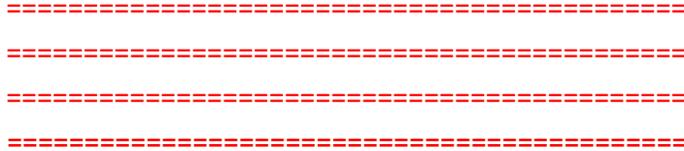
A major underlying cause of these issues and the resistance to their acknowledgment was the lack of realistic testing. The high cost of torpedoes led BuOrd to develop "highly artificial testing procedures" designed to safeguard practice torpedoes for multiple uses, rather than conducting live-fire tests that might destroy valuable units. Crucially, submariners were never allowed to train with actual, functioning torpedoes, which prevented the end-users from noticing the defects in a controlled environment before combat. This created a critical disconnect where fundamental design flaws went undetected, and when combat reports from the fleet undeniably pointed to problems, the powerful and semi-autonomous BuOrd systematically blamed the users rather than admitting its own design faults.

The resolution of the problem ultimately came from field-driven solutions initiated by frustrated submarine commanders in the Pacific, despite BuOrd's objections. Rear Admiral Charles Lockwood, who became Commander, Submarines, Pacific Fleet, played a pivotal role in forcing the issue. He ordered a "net test" at Frenchman Bay, Australia, on June 20, 1942, which unequivocally confirmed that torpedoes set for a 10-foot depth were piercing the net at 25 feet, demonstrating an 11-foot depth error. Lockwood also ordered further tests, including firing torpedoes with warheads at an undersea cliff and dropping dummy warheads onto steel plates, which revealed defects in the contact pistol.

The solutions implemented were direct and practical: for depth control, commanders initially compensated by setting shallower depths, and BuOrd finally conceded the 10-foot depth error in August 1942, with a new depth control valve and a relocated pressure sensor implemented in late 1943. The Mark 6 magnetic exploder's unreliability led to its widespread discontinuation by early 1943, as the U.S. fleet was never issued a fully tested, reliable magnetic exploder during the war. The contact exploder problem, caused by the weak firing pin, was resolved by designing and installing stronger, lighter firing pins, reportedly made from scrapped Japanese aircraft propellers, allowing proper detonation upon impact.

The entire process of identifying and fixing the Mark 14's problems took almost two years, from December 1941 to November 1943. The USS *Barb* was the first American submarine to go on patrol with a full load of reliable torpedoes by September 30, 1943, marking the point where the problems were finally fixed, though the Pacific War was already half over. After these fixes, the Mark 14 played a major role in the devastating blow U.S. Navy submarines dealt to the Japanese naval and merchant marine forces during the Pacific War. The effectiveness of U.S. torpedoes, particularly the Mark 14, improved significantly, with

initial effectiveness as low as 13% in 1941 and 28% in 1942, rising to 34.5% in 1943 and peaking at 38% in 1944. Overall, U.S. submarines fired 14,420 torpedoes during the war, achieving a total claimed hit percentage of 34%. This transformation in reliability allowed U.S. submarines to effectively implement unrestricted submarine warfare against Japanese shipping, contributing significantly to the stalling of Japan's war industry and the eventual collapse of its economy.



"I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live by the light that I have." - Abraham Lincoln.



Source: YouTube: The Power of words.

The older you get the closer eternity seems. You never know when the sand is going to run out of the hourglass. So I just wanted to say, live well, be kind to others, and love and appreciate your family and friends. I'm going to challenge just one person out of my family and friends to put this on their wall. Tomorrow is promised to no one. ☺

"Call me crazy but I dream of a world where equality isn't debated, kindness isn't rare, and joy isn't reserved for the lucky. If a few more hearts held onto that dream, maybe we'd finally get it right."
Paul Avellina

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/Hzgim5m7oU>



He Never Stole Heavies

by Bob "Dex" Armstrong

Looking back over the span of forty years and sifting through the memories brings smiles to this old boat sailor's

face. The smile normally worn by a kid who got away with



continually poking frogs down the bloomers of the "Goddess of Proper Behavior."

We had great times. I've always been glad I didn't serve in submarines after they tamed the crews in order to project their idea of what serious professional decorum should look like. It was a time of adventure: the kind of life you dreamed of as a young lad. Riding diesel boats in the late '50s was fun. The fine men who had put our old worn-out, shot-to-hell boats in commission had won a war, and in so doing had handed us a swashbuckling legacy. They created and earned a reputation for being "I don't give a damn" folks. In the late '50s, a lot of them were still around.

In those days, boats came with tubes that had actually fired stuff that had sent men and metal to the ocean floor. Some boats came with one hell of a meat eater pedigree; you had a feeling of pride as you popped a snappy salute to their colors as you crossed over them in the nest.

We still had "walking decks" that allowed boat sailors to come topside and bullshit with lads on other boats. Some of the older boats that hadn't been tapped for conversion still had "cigarette decks"—where guys in working gear could come topside after chow and catch a smoke and inventory night stars for no other reason than it was great to be alive.

Some fellow on a computer board recently posted something, signed his name and rate, and added, "We didn't steal heavies." Good for you, Horsefly. That tells me you missed one helluva lot of fun. It also tells me this fellow finds it very important for the world to know he was on a boat full of good boys. That in itself would've been good for a laugh in our day.

"Heavie rustlin" was great sport. It provided laughs. A good gang of heavie thieves were highly respected. Subron Six had some world championship line handler magicians. They could make heavies disappear right before your eyes. For example, nobody ever did it better than the guys off the Redfin or Cubera. Methodology was a tightly held secret. You could get the classified formula to Coca-Cola easier than the skinny on boat-specific heavie-stealing tricks. It was just what boatsailors did. And what made it great was that you knew the devious bastards stealing them would fight to be at the head of the line if you ever needed a whole blood transfusion. In those days it all came with Dolphins.

When I read that "I didn't steal heavies" bit, I felt sad for the poor sonuvabitch. He just didn't get it. The poor bastard was obviously wrapped around the axle of some post-smokeboat era concept of "proper decorum and behavior." I'll bet my thirteen-button blues he never stood topside at a sunny morning quarters formation looking at his Chief of the Boat wearing shorts and a black Mexican sombrero. Or had an Exec who wore sandals at sea. And he probably never crossed his brow in blood-spattered whites with a

broken nose. Never played “King of the Dumpster” in Bermuda or took a piss in the outfield in the twenty-third inning of an “all afternoon” beer ball game.

This lad must’ve been a four-oh sailor, and I am sure his mummy was proud.

If my hunch is right, he never pinned a set of Dolphins on a barmaid’s panties, or called for a “tit squeeze and a beer” at Bells. And no doubt the shore patrol never had to talk him down out of a tree either.

In a way, that’s sad, because as stupid as all this must sound to someone who never lived the life, it’s what made us what we were. But in the ’50s, no boat ended up on the front page because it sank, ran into something when surfacing, or worked for a Force Commander who had to go make a deep “let me kiss your ass” bow to the prime minister of what was once known as the Jap Empire.

We threw lads over the side because tradition held that no skipper pinned Dolphins on a dry shirt. And those Dolphins meant that the man wearing them knew his entire boat, and could find and operate all her gear blindfolded.

At the time, it was all we knew. It was what we were. Every night when I go to bed I still drift off to sleep secure in the knowledge that somewhere there is a submariner who never lifted a heaving line. What a wonderful way to characterize your boat service.

I can’t help remembering the phrase: “I am not a crook.”

I wore silver Dolphins and I rustled heavies.

Bigtime.

Keep a zero bubble... Dex.

=====

Dad Jokes

A friend of mine was fired from his job at a local cause he only had nine toes. The good news is and won his case when the judge ruled that his employer was “lack toes intolerant”.



What kind of dog doesn’t Bark? A hush Puppy.

How is dew formed? The sun shines down on the leaves and makes them perspire

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USSVI School of the Boat (refresher training)

Learn more about our USSVI organization – an oft repeated subject, but necessary.

In June, I started a series of the USSVI School of the Boat about the USSVI. This month, I’m continuing the series on the USSVI Charitable Foundation (commonly known as the USSVCF) and its various foundation funds.

USSVCF Brotherhood Fund

Question: What is the USSVCF Brotherhood Fund, and who is the Fund manager? **Answer:** This fund is one of the most sought-out and popular funds (followed closely by the Scholarship Fund), can be used to help our active-duty Sailors and their families and our Veterans. The fund manager is Mike Ferranti.

Question: What, or who, does the brotherhood fund sup-

port? **Answer:** The Brotherhood Fund assists fellow shipmates who are themselves or immediate family experiencing any serious illness. We can’t help with the illness, but we can help with financial stresses associated with the illness. Also, the fund can assist members when other major events occur, such as: fires, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, etc.

For the benefit of our newer members who may not know it yet, our Base has made an annual contribution to the Brotherhood Fund for the past several years.

The fund is also used to annually provide additional financial support to the Active Service Submariners through the SubLant and SubPac Caring and Sharing programs.

Question: What are some of the recent Brotherhood Fund Awards? **Answers:** [February 2023](#)

Subvet was discharged from the Navy due to a serious medical condition, kidney failure. He and his family (wife & 2 children), returned home to Ohio. A kidney transplant was needed and he was out of work for 2–3 months. His Columbus Base and family did a “go fundme” and raised nearly \$3,000. The Brotherhood Fund sent an additional \$3,000 directly to this shipmate. This carried them through until he could return to work.

[April 2023](#)

A Missile Tech who served on USS ALASKA left the Navy in 1989 and began his civilian life. He was a member of the Redfish Base in Louisiana. He was diagnosed with ALS and had a dire prognosis. Disability income was adequate to maintain the family, but he was now in a wheelchair full-time and needed to modify the home to accommodate it. The Brotherhood Fund sent \$3,000 to assist in the modification of doorways and other changes needed.

Question: What is the Brotherhood Fund Balance? **Answer:** As of 30 June 2025, \$150,913. Over the past eleven years (2011 - 2022) the Brotherhood fund has disbursed in excess of \$85,000 in support of our Submarine Veteran shipmates in need.

Question: How is the fund distributed? **Answer:** At the beginning of each fiscal year, the treasurer spreads (allocates) surplus funds to all open funds, on a proportional basis. In February 2021, that resulted in 11.3%; in February 2022, it was 10.8% and in February 2023 it was 5.1% added to every fund. It is expected to repeat that level of distribution for Fiscal Year 2024 if the balance follows through like the beginning.

Repeat Question/answer: How can I donate to the Brotherhood Fund Fund? **Answer:** To donate to the brotherhood fund, go to the USSVCF website at www.ussvcf.org.

Question: Is my donation tax deductible? **Answer:** Yes. The USSVCF is a 501(c)3 organization.

